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- Save £££s on bills

STYLISH HOMES AFFORDABLE IDEAS

627  
GENIUS  
IDEAS  
*to create your perfect home!*

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'Upcycle what you have to keep costs down'



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- \* 30+ Fab No-Fuss Meals



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11 >

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With over 95 fabrics and 30 sofa shapes to choose from, we think you'll be amazed...



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A large photograph of a lime green sofa with a curved backrest and two matching pillows. The sofa is set against a dark blue wall with a framed painting. To the right, there's a bar cart with glasses and a small table with vases. The floor is made of light-colored wood.

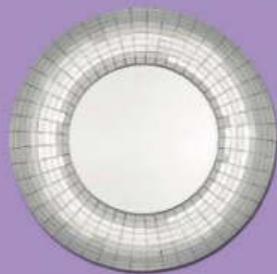
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MAKE



YOUR



HOME



COME



TOGETHER



**VERY.CO.UK**

**GET COSY**

Bring the light indoors and create a warm glow with our stylish but simple projects, and don't forget our recipes – they're sure to warm you up this autumn!

# Hi there!

This morning, on my walk to *Style at Home* HQ, I felt a definite nip in the air – autumn is here! And I say it with glee, as the colours at this time of year are my favourites. I love styling my home in burnt oranges and deep reds as they add such warmth. Sadly when winter sets in, it'll take more than colour to make you feel cosy – cue our **ultimate guide to heating** (p63). This handy pull-out-and-keep mini mag is full of all the advice you need to ensure you're heating your home efficiently, and our ideas on page 80 will see that you're **saving money on bills**, too. I'm sure, like me, you'll love cover star Jan's kitchen-diner (p94), she's completely **transformed the space** for her family, while Sarah's home (p32) is a wonderful display of vintage and thrift. **Get creative yourself** and try our easy projects – wall notice boards (p58), a rope light (p30) and a studded lamp (p60) are perfect for beginners. If you're looking for some quick updates, then our 15 pages of **high-street shopping finds** will inspire – flick to page 14 and get started. Plus, with Christmas on the way, it's a great time to think about pressies, and an annual **subscription to Style at Home** makes the perfect gift, or even a lovely treat for yourself!

*lizzie*

Lizzie Hudson, Acting Editor

## SUBSCRIBE!

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**SEND US PICTURES OF YOUR HOME AND YOU COULD FEATURE IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF YOUR FAVOURITE MAGAZINE!**

## Contact us

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# Inside...



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Inspiring homes & room makeovers



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Stylish must-have finds at high-street prices



**Do it**  
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**Make it**  
Step-by-step craft ideas & upcycling how-tos



**Cook it**  
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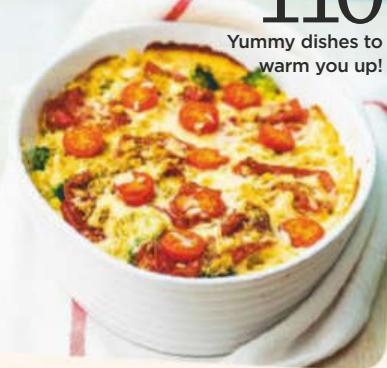


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Yummy dishes to warm you up!



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Tweet us your comments at [@styleathomemag](https://twitter.com/styleathomemag) - we'd love to hear what you think of your favourite magazine!

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# Meet the team

Every issue, we have a little extra help, thanks to our six *Stylists at Home*. Meet them here and find their comments in the magazine...

## Tara Scholes



**ABOUT ME** I'm 29 and I live with my boyfriend Joe, 31, and our daughter Amelie, eight months, in a rented two-bedroom flat in southeast London.

**WHAT'S YOUR LATEST HOME PROJECT?** I've just finished upcycling a farmhouse table and chairs for our living area. I stripped the top and painted the underneath and chairs for a gorgeous new look.

## Aimie Longhorn



**ABOUT ME** I'm 25 and I live with my partner Stephen, 28, in a three-bedroom Edwardian house in Surrey.

**WHAT'S YOUR LATEST HOME PROJECT?** Since moving in we've completely redecorated and refurbished the house. It's very contemporary in style but we've kept the original period features. We're currently redesigning our garden.

## Laura Simmons



**ABOUT ME** I'm 33 and I live with my boyfriend Chris, 36, in a three-bedroom semi in West Sussex.

**WHAT'S YOUR LATEST HOME PROJECT?** Everything in our house is a project at the moment as we've just moved in. We've chosen our beautiful Victorian column radiators and a lovely traditional-style heated towel rail for the bathroom.

## Tina Wright



**ABOUT ME** I'm 36 and I live with my husband Matt, 36, and our daughters Isabella, three, and Adelaide, two, in a three-bedroom semi in Kent.

**WHAT'S YOUR LATEST HOME PROJECT?** Right now, we're turning Adelaide's bedroom from a nursery into a pretty little girl's room. But as the girls are enjoying sharing, we might create a playroom instead.

## Sharon Templeman



**ABOUT ME** I'm 44 and I live with my husband Mark, 49, and my children Chloe, 19, and Ben, 17, in a five-bedroom detached in Peterborough.

**WHAT'S YOUR LATEST HOME PROJECT?** We turned our kitchen, conservatory and utility room into one space, which took a lot of careful planning. It's now a more practical space that is very sociable.

## Sarah Fox



**ABOUT ME** I'm 32 and I live with my partner Rhys, 32, in a three-bed 1960s semi in West Yorkshire.

**WHAT'S YOUR LATEST HOME PROJECT?** I recently transformed an old, mismatched bedside table using Annie Sloan chalk paint and dark wax. It looks pretty good, even if I do say so myself! I'm a huge crafter so the house gets filled with my projects.

## GET IN TOUCH

Have you just finished decorating your home or have you transformed one of your rooms from drab to fab? Email us at [styleathome@timeinc.com](mailto:styleathome@timeinc.com) and send us some photos and you could be featured in a future issue of *Style at Home*.

**We turned dull into a FABULOUS, FUN SPACE!**

**STYLE SKILLS**  
Give us a sneak peek of your home's new look

**I added charm with VINTAGE PIECES'**

## Become a Stylist at Home

Sign up to join our *Stylists at Home* club! You'll receive bonus offers and special treats, plus you could appear in a future issue. Email [stylistsathome@timeinc.com](mailto:stylistsathome@timeinc.com)

# GET MORE @styleathomemag

Our pick of your best tweets, snaps and posts from our digital world – join us online today!



## #askSAH

**Q** I would love to hang log-effect wallpaper in my house but I'm not sure how I should style around it. Any clever ideas?

**LISA TAYLOR,  
SOUTHAMPTON**

The great news is that wallpaper is back in fashion and there are so many wonderful designs to choose from, including plenty of real-effect prints. The trick, when using a wallpaper with something like logs, is to keep the rest of the decor neutral. As we've done here, opt for creams and greys and give a nod to the woodland trend with a stag cushion.

Got a burning styling question? Tweet it to editor Lizzie @styleathomemag. She's on hand with all the answers!



## Tweets we love

### @nikdiem

Renovating my bungalow. Loving the affordable inspiration in your mag!

### @laurasarahdoll

Tucked up in bed with the latest copy to get inspiration for my living room.

### @Lisahh\_Jayne

Enjoying a cuppa and @styleathomemag while I come up with style ideas!

## WE'VE GOT MAIL



I wanted to share these little upcycled tables with Style at Home. I named them Girls Rule, Boys Drool and sold them on my Facebook page, Raspberry Jack Creations.

Your magazine is a great inspiration to me!  
**CLAUDE SERAPHINA, PERTH**



## MOST REPINNED

Check out Style at Home on Pinterest for lots of easy projects. Our Make It: Upcycling board is packed with DIY ideas for your home – see how to turn a crate into a table, make teacup candles and much more!

Follow us at [pinterest.com/  
styleathomemag](http://pinterest.com/styleathomemag)



## This month...

Like us on Facebook and share your style tips and projects. Here's one of our latest posts – how to create a cosy autumnal feel in your bedroom. Follow us at [facebook.com/styleathomemag](https://www.facebook.com/styleathomemag)



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## WEEKLY TREAT

Can't wait for the next issue? Sign up for our new weekly email newsletter and have all the latest styling news, decorating ideas, amazing offers and so much more delivered straight to your inbox.

Sign up at [housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist](http://housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist) and get this week's issue!

**Style at Home** Love it Buy it Do it Make it

**The home stylist**

A WEEKLY TREAT FROM US TO YOU

Hello,

This week we're loving these five crafty ways to add colour to your home (especially this beauty of a dining chair). For more recycling ideas, watch our £20 challenge video and see how we transformed our favourite finds from an antiques fair. And, if you would like to be part of our Stylists at Home team email [styleathomemag@timeincuk.com](mailto:styleathomemag@timeincuk.com) and you could see yourself in a future issue!

Love, the Style At Home team



## Tune in

Missed last issue's £20 challenge? Watch the video now to see how Emily and Laurie got on at the Lincolnshire Showground Antiques & Home Show. Visit [housetohome.co.uk/20poundchallengeSeptember](http://housetohome.co.uk/20poundchallengeSeptember)



## YOU DID IT!

### @SAVVY\_DECOR

These upcycled frames look lovely finished with Annie Sloan paint!



**@ASHC\_X**  
Great to see you've been inspired by our August £20 challenge!

Share your latest crafty projects with us on Instagram using hashtags #stylistmakes or #stylistrevamps



## Our top 5... STYLE TIPS FOR AUTUMN

- Embrace the season with rich orange and deep red colours that emulate the falling of the leaves – lovely.
  - Create a cosy and warm feeling in your living room with lots of comfy cushions, soft rugs and blankets.
  - Forget dreary days by brightening up your front door with fresh paint – a zingy lemon would look fab!
  - Sink into a bath on a cold evening for an instant pick-me-up, made even better with candles and lanterns.
  - Make the most of daylight by hanging mirrors to reflect light.
- Join the conversation and plenty of others at [facebook.com/styleathomemag](https://www.facebook.com/styleathomemag) and share your styling tips.



## BLOG LOVIN'

This month, we're shopping for our favourite bakeware and love this cute apron set from Argos.

Find out all about it on our blog and follow us for plenty of other exciting news, the latest trends, styling tips and makes at [cushienumber.co.uk](http://cushienumber.co.uk)



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**DATE FOR  
YOUR DIARY**

Take a trip to the RHS London Frost Fair on 1 November at Lindley Hall in Westminster for expert advice on growing your own produce, as well as seasonal food, crafts, workshops and Christmas gifts. Visit [rhs.org.uk/shows-events](http://rhs.org.uk/shows-events).

## DRESS THE WINDOWS

Blinds specialist Hillarys has launched Jewel: The Edit, a brand-new collection for autumn. This sumptuous range features Roman blinds and curtain fabrics in four gorgeous colour palettes: Jade, Sapphire, Amber and Ruby – and we've fallen head over heels for each and every one of them. With prices starting from just £127 for curtains measuring 127 x 137cm, these fabrics are definitely worth checking out if you fancy a new look for your windows. For more info, visit [hillarys.co.uk](http://hillarys.co.uk).



## THIS MONTH'S *pinboard*

Our round-up of what to do, where to go and what to look out for this month



### *Warm up your decor*

Get your home looking cosy for winter by introducing rich tones and natural woods into your scheme. Try hanging wood panel-effect wallpaper on a feature wall for a striking update, or simply accessorise with snuggly checked throws and new cushions for an instant refresh. Check out our Pinterest page for more decorating ideas at [pinterest.com/styleathomemag](http://pinterest.com/styleathomemag).

**TASTE OF  
THE SEASON**

Enjoy a sweet treat this Bonfire Night and pour warm chocolate sauce over vanilla ice cream, or serve indulgent hot chocolates by the fire. See our Cook It section on page 107 for lots more delicious ideas!



### HOT OFF THE PRESS

Grab a copy of *Winter Living* (£19.99, Ryland Peters & Small) by bestselling interiors author Selina Lake. With stunning photography and plenty of ideas to get your creative juices flowing, Selina brings her signature romantic style to every page and shares her top seasonal tips on everything from how to scent your home to working winter florals into your decorating. Available at Amazon and all leading bookshops.

**CLIMB HIGH**

Mountain slogan cushion, £8

**Enjoy**

... every ...  
*adventure*

**GEO LOOK**

Gold print votive, £6

**COPPER TOP**

Small ribbed glass jar, £2

**CREATURE COMFORT**

Moose ornament, £20

**FINE DETAIL**

Feather trim cushion, £8

**GEORGE HOME*****Wild things***

Think simple carvings, feathers and chunky rustic textures

**TACTILE BUYS****FOCAL POINT**

Weave vase, £18



# The £35 EDIT

Shopping Editor Laurie has searched the high street and online for this month's brilliant home buys – all £35 or less

**Want it now!**

THIS DEER HEAD CANDLE  
IS ON MY WISH LIST –  
ALTHOUGH IT'S ALMOST  
TOO CUTE TO LIGHT!

Deer candle, £7, Two Moons & Hannais at Etsy

**ON DISPLAY**

Gold lustre vase, £10

**NEW FLAME**

White glass hurricane lamp, £30

**BHS*****Natural appeal***

Go for fresh chartreuse hues

**GREEN PARTY**

Lime bobble cushion, £20

**MAKE THE BED**

Painterly Blossom and Hector Check, from £19.99 for a double duvet set





**TRIBAL CHIC**  
Cushions, from £10 each; textured vase, £10; ram's head, £18

## 3 of the best

### PLACEMATS

Set your table with these stylish designs from Amara



**TEAR OFF**  
Kitchen Papers  
chevron placemats,  
£19.50 for 50 sheets



**FINE ART**  
Chilewich pressed  
pebble round silver  
placemat, £12.95



**COLOUR CODE**  
Le Jacquard  
Français origami  
placemat, £9



### WOODLAND RETREAT

Stag applique  
cushion, £12; stag  
throw, £5; owl  
candle holders,  
£8 each

## Stylists at Home



**SARAH SAYS**  
‘The copper trend is still really popular. Now we’re into autumn, combining it with gold accessories helps to add a cosy and luxurious touch to a room.’

## MATALAN

### My favourite buys

Treat your home to smart autumnal buys

#### REFLECT IT

Copper-effect mirror, £18



#### FILE AWAY

Jute basket  
set, £8



#### RUSTIC LOOK



#### THREE WISE...

Owl candle holder set, £8

## Cushion CORNER

Keep snug with cosy-looking designs



### ULTRA VIOLET

Purple velvet cushion, £35, Marks & Spencer



### PURL ONE

Digital knit cushion, £10, Next



### JEWEL BRIGHT

Green cushion cover, £12.99, H&M



### FURRY FRIEND

Light Naturals faux-fur cushion, £14, Tesco



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### VIEWPOINT

Misty Moors landscape box canvas, £34.99

### IN CHECK

Fuchsia tweed cushion, £12.99



### LEAFY LOOK

Ceramic fern vase, £11.99



## DUNELM

### Country scene

Add charm with plum, cranberry and petrol blue

### TREND WATCH

### COVER UP

Faux mohair check throw, £24.99

### CHIRPY CHAP

Glass bird ornament, £9.99

### TIME FOR TEA

Ceramic bowl with pooled glaze, £14.99; Stoneware glaze mug, £3.49; Glass candlesticks, £8.99 each; Hare figurine, £3.99

### BURNISHED LINING

Bowl, £35, Cox & Cox



## ON MY RADAR

### Metal rush

Brass and gold are the new copper...

### POT OF GOLD

Hanging planter, £11.95, Mia Fleur



### LOOKING GLASS

Mirror, £14.99, H&M



### LUSTRE LOVE

Gold pot, £7.99, H&M

### CHIC TOUCH

Hanging feathers, £2.95 set of two, Mia Fleur





## Buy it, style it!

**CREATE AN ECLECTIC DISPLAY WITH A BIRD CAGE AND PRETTY DRAWERS FULL OF TREASURES**

Bird cage, £26; storage, from £8, all Sainsbury's

WORDS LAURIE DAVIDSON

## Stylists at Home



**LAURA SAYS**  
‘You can often pick up designer-inspired pieces on the high street for less, you just need to keep your eyes peeled!’

## Bring your bathroom UP TO DATE



**TWO TONE**  
Basket, £19.99,  
H&M



**DRY OFF**  
Zigzag Teal towels,  
£12, House of Fraser



**HAND WASH**  
Geo soap dispenser,  
£5, George Home

## HOMESENSE

### Winter retreat

Faux fur and twinkly lights make a room extra special



**PRETTY ADDITION**  
Flower shell  
mirror, £29.99

**GLAM STYLE**

**FADE OUT**  
Ombre glass  
vase, £5.99



### SNUG HIDEAWAY

Silver cushion,  
£19.99; faux-fur  
throw, £34.99;  
bird cage, £12.99



**TICK TOCK**  
Brown leather  
hanging clock,  
£9.99

# HILLARYS

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Anouk Dusk curtains, Lyra White Voiles, Beachwood Wood Illusion blind

Give your windows the attention they deserve with blinds, curtains and shutters from Hillarys. For a truly modern look and feel choose full-length curtains in a contemporary pattern, like our on-trend Anouk design in dusk grey. And for complete control over light and privacy, layer your curtains with a voile or blind, or even both – the extra layers will look simply stunning and will create a cosy atmosphere, perfect for the bedroom.

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# Look what you styled... EASY UPDATES

Click @styleathomemag on Instagram, and tag your super-styled pictures with #SAHstylists for your chance to be featured right here

## WELL-DRESSED

Make your bedroom fit for a princess with a beautifully styled dressing table, as @magickrubby has done. Store make-up and toiletries in chic containers to keep clutter at bay and freshen up the room with a bunch of pretty blooms.



## SWEET SUITE

Give a bedroom a fresh look with a lick of paint and new textiles. Pick a blue palette; mix indigo blue with duck egg and finish off the look with neutral accessories. Get a hotel feel by layering up cushions and a smart throw. Loving your work, @hollyrachelparry!



## GET CRAFTY

Organise your craft room with a handy display to keep pretty accessories on show, just like @rosetintedcrafting. Turn a cutlery tray on its side to create a simple storage unit, and stack washi tapes in various colour and pattern arrangements.



## Cool metal

Style up a side table with modern metallics for an on-trend look. Mix copper with mint green for a contemporary colour combo, or go for a luxury look with gold and black. When styling a small display, choose pieces of different shapes and sizes to keep the collection varied and interesting. Make ours a large one, @prettylittlepoppet!

## PAINT PROJECT

Channel a country-chic vibe just as @brianthedogfood has, with an upcycled dresser to display colourful crockery and accessories. Head to your local car-boot sale or charity shop to bag a bargain.



We also want to see your upcycling pics! Share them using hashtags #stylists revamps or #stylistsmakes

# 'We turned dull into A FABULOUS, FUN SPACE'

*Stylist at Home* Polly, 26, has transformed her standard new-build into a flat that's buzzing with personality

## MY HOME...



**ABOUT ME** I'm Polly Schott, 26, and I work in design relations. I share my home with my flatmate and work colleague, Tom Chalet, 26, and his miniature dachshund, Darcy.

**MY HOME** A two-bedroom third-floor flat in east London, which we bought off-plan from a housing development in 2009 – it was built in 2010.

**WHEN I MOVED IN** The brand-new apartment was an empty white cube with neutral fixtures and fittings.

**AND NOW** The living room walls have been clad with reclaimed scaffolding boards for a warm look and the open-plan kitchen has been revamped with blackboard paint. I updated the main bedroom in a deep shade of almost black and the entire apartment has been furnished top-to-bottom with an eclectic mix of online and vintage finds.

**STYLE TIP** I love that every piece in my home has a memory attached to it. I purposely have no items that are there just to look pretty – every single piece means something to me.



## GO FOR GLAMOUR

'The Mayfair drinks cabinet, £279, is one of my new buys from Swoon Editions. It's great for hiding clutter'

## LITTLE THINGS

'I really took my time decorating this space for the second time – everything in here has a special meaning behind it'





#### STYLE TIP

'Fit wooden cladding on your walls to add texture'

**M**onths before getting the keys to my new flat, I'd been picturing how it would look in my head,' says Polly. 'I'd been buying furniture and accessories for seven months. I had everything planned out in advance and knew exactly what I wanted to do. On the day I moved in, I started painting within 20 minutes of having the keys, and the place looked pretty much finished within about 48 hours!'

I bought the flat off-plan from a housing development with my close friend and colleague, Tom. When we first came to view the property, there was absolutely nothing here - it was just a concrete shell where the block of flats was going to be. But we loved the east London location, knowing we'd be able to walk to work, and there is so much going on locally

that I never have to go far. So before the place was even built, we decided to take a risk and put down our deposit.

#### Starting afresh

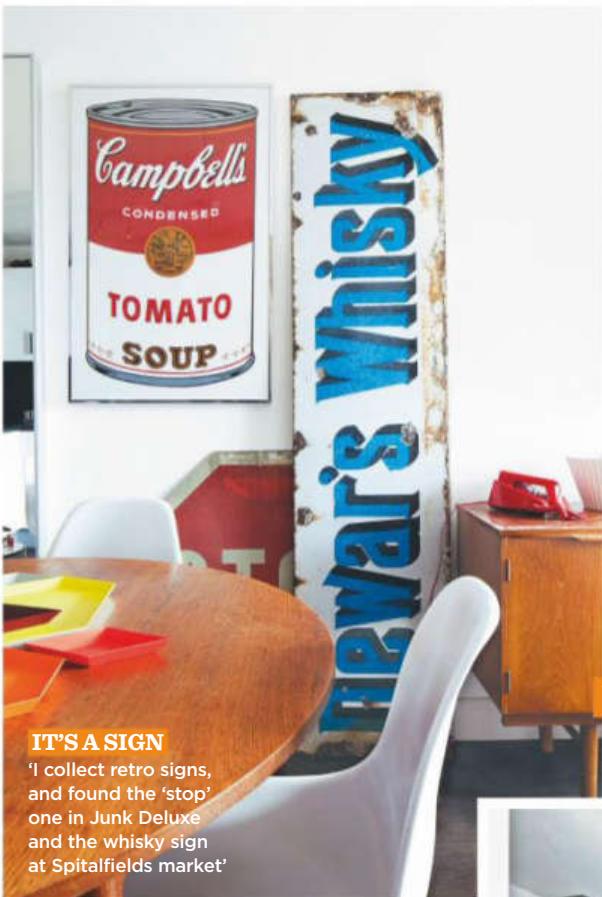
The flat was decorated prescriptively with white walls so it was very much a blank canvas for us to test out our decorating ideas. The fittings were simple in style, such as the neutral kitchen units and the limestone bathroom. We paid extra to have the dark wooden flooring, which was already in the main living areas, to continue on into the bedrooms instead of carpet. There was nothing that made a statement, so we wanted to get going straight away and put our stamp on the place.

We were so eager to get started that we were actually painting over the white walls as the removal men were carrying furniture into the flat - I was climbing over boxes >>



#### BRIGHT IDEA

'I spotted these Lee Broom decanter lights in a magazine and loved them so much that I just had to have them'



#### IT'S A SIGN

'I collect retro signs, and found the 'stop' one in Junk Deluxe and the whisky sign at Spitalfields market'

## Stylists at Home



**SHARON SAYS**  
'Repurposing objects like the suitcases as a coffee table is a fab way to add interest. It also gives you hidden storage! You could fix legs to one for an alternative look.'



#### WRITE IDEA

'Tom came up with the chalkboard splashback. Our friends are always leaving us notes'

**'TAKE TIME AND ONLY ADD THINGS WHEN YOU KNOW THEY'RE RIGHT – A HOME IS ALWAYS EVOLVING, WHICH IS ALL PART OF THE FUN'**

## 3 style buys



**THIS WAY**  
Black matt arrow light, £95, Bhs

#### TIME WARP

Juice bar clock, £49.99, Homesense



#### IN PRINT

Chevron print cushion, £25, House of Fraser



#### DINE IN STYLE

'It's nice to have a relaxing environment when we entertain - this laid-back dining area is ideal'



#### FLOOR FILLER

'The dark wood flooring really sets off the colourful artwork and furniture – it's one of my favourite features'

» to touch up the paintwork. Because I'd had so long to think about how I wanted to decorate, I had it all worked out in my mind, and nothing was going to stop me!

#### Smart buys

The first thing I bought for the flat was the vintage 1970s wooden extendable dining table, which I found at Past Caring in Islington – this was seven months before moving in. I knew what I was after, so as soon as I saw anything I liked, I'd snap it up straight away and then store it at my parents'. I'd even carry around a floorplan whenever I went shopping to make sure that everything would fit properly into the space. Tom and I were soon both picking up the dining chairs, the sideboard, a leather sofa for the living room and beds from junk shops and online auction sites. Within just two days of moving in, the flat

already felt like we'd been living there for years.

In hindsight, the speed at which we decorated might have been a little bit rushed. I think that because I'd waited so long to move in and this was my first home, I just wanted it all done. But I've come to realise that a home is never finished. We're constantly adding to it and selling stuff that we no longer need to make room for other pieces.

#### Overseas inspiration

After Tom spent time working in Germany, he was keen to change the place when he came back. He returned with so many cool accessories from Berlin that we wanted to give the place a revamp to show them off.

I was increasingly obsessed with adding texture to give the flat some character, so

#### STYLE TIP

'Suspend a statement pendant light above a dining table to create a focal point'



#### OFF THE WALL

'Quirky accessories really show off our personalities'

when we discovered a timber yard selling reclaimed scaffolding boards, we decided to clad the living room walls. Unfortunately, the boards were in a slightly worse shape than we'd first anticipated and we ended up having to sand each one down and cut them to fit with a circular saw. Tom taught himself how to do it and attached each »

**ART ATTACK**

'I designed the Pick Me sign in Photoshop and then had it made into a canvas - I really like the circus font'

# PICK ME



**COME ON IN**

'We decided on a warm shade for the hall walls to make it cosy and welcoming'

**Make it**

Create your own slogan light with our simple project

PAGE 30

## Hit the shops

Five tips on what to buy to get Polly's style

★ **ONE OF A KIND** If you want items no-one else has, then look online for exclusive designs. We love Swoon Editions' Sidney sofa, £749.

★ **SWITCH IT UP** Swap standard white electrical lighting cable for colourful cord. Silk-covered three core flex, £4.50m, Re-Found.

★ **WALL ART** We love the artwork above Polly's bed. Art.co.uk has lots of similar prints that you can have made up on canvas, from £18.99.

★ **MIX UP PRINTS** Introduce pattern with chevron and stripe fabrics, such as the Jacquard-weave cushion cover, £7.99, H&M.

★ **PERSONALISE IT** Add character with letters. There's a great choice at Notonthehighstreet.com, from £1.99.

## Stylists at Home



**LAURA SAYS**

'I think some retro tins would look great on the top of Polly and Tom's kitchen cupboards. They would make great storage and look fab with their vintage signs.'

**GLOSS OVER**

'These hi-gloss wardrobes are from Ikea. For extra storage, I've placed Lego-themed boxes from Store on top'



**COLOUR SPLASH**

'As the bathroom was new, I didn't want to change it. Instead I've added character with bright accessories'





» plank to the wall using battens. This saved us a small fortune and no one could believe we did it all ourselves.

Next on the list was my bedroom. We painted the walls in a dense matt black and I upholstered my padded headboard with a chic black-and-white chevron-patterned fabric that I found online. I made the "Pick Me" sign hanging above the bed using a font in Photoshop, and then had it printed on canvas. Finally, I hung pendant lights either side of the bed on bright red electrical cord, which helps to create a slightly more intimate atmosphere.

Although we often throw big parties for friends and everyone always ends up here after a night out. I also love to hibernate in my home and the majority of the time, it's the place where I can escape from the city. Having the walls

painted in dark rich shades gives the interior a cosy atmosphere, which I enjoy.

### All change

When I got a new job at an online furniture company, Swoon Editions, I had a good excuse to start replacing some of the furniture I bought when I first moved in. So far I've swapped my leather sofa for a fabric design, replaced the armchair and bought a gold drinks cabinet – plus I have more items on order! I wanted a calm, grown-up look, but this time, I've not rushed it. I'm enjoying taking my time.'

Get clicking and go to [housetohome.co.uk/  
styleathome](http://housetohome.co.uk/styleathome) for more inspiring house tours.

### GREAT IDEA

'Look for accessories with a similar pattern – it helps tie a room together'

### ON DISPLAY

'This shelf is home to a collection of random things I love – it creates a unique display'





£16

Accessorise with  
this classic  
Astrid zigzag  
photo frame,  
OLIVER BONAS



£32 per m

Get creative with  
the Dhurrie fabric  
in Sauterne,  
SCION



£35

Display yellow blooms  
as a contrast to the  
teal Chevron vase,  
BHS



Bring the look of your room into line with a  
selection of on-trend geometric patterns

## Buy Polly's style CHEVRON DESIGNS

**W**orking zigzags into your home decor is the perfect way to add contemporary flair, and they're great for those who tend to shy away from pattern.

Chevron prints come in various forms, from bold, graphic designs to subtle detailing, so there is something to suit every style. We've chosen 11 striking chevron buys from the high street and online to get your creative juices flowing!



£25

Hide away clutter  
inside this set of two  
Chevron boxes,  
VERY



£17.95

Pick this enamel  
dinner plate for  
a subtle look,  
DASSIE

MODERN  
TOUCH



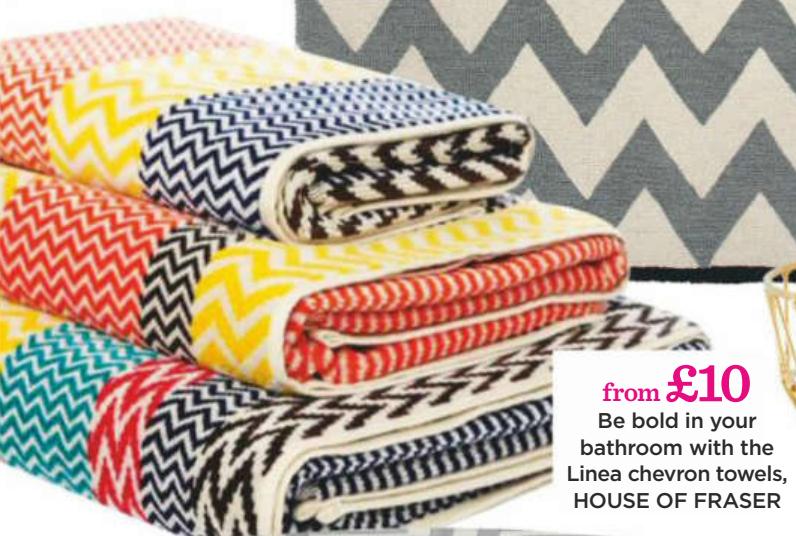
**£67.99**

Use the Chevrons lampshade to update your look in a flash, WAYFAIR



**£59**

Boost floors instantly by laying the Chevron rug, MARKS & SPENCER



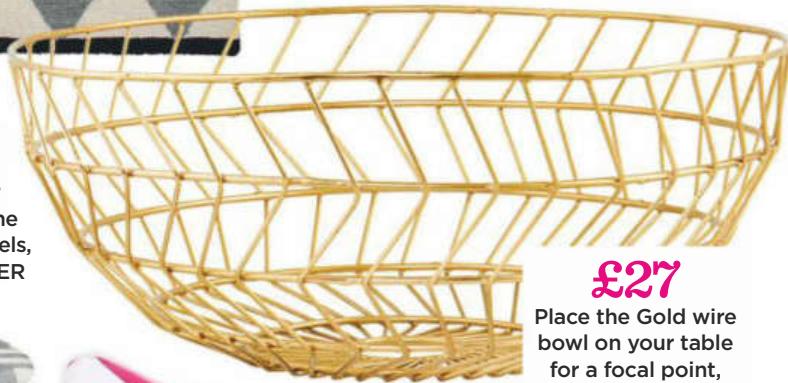
**from £10**

Be bold in your bathroom with the Linea chevron towels, HOUSE OF FRASER



**£225**

Treat your living room to the stylish Mojo side table, LOAF



**£27**

Place the Gold wire bowl on your table for a focal point, HOME CANDY



**£20**

Choose the Chevron & Roundel cushion for a dash of colour, ASPACE

**TWO-SIDED  
STYLE**

## STYLE SECRETS

Check out our suggestions for using chic chevrons at home

### OFF THE WALL

Make a style statement and decorate a feature wall with a fun zigzag design. Use a pencil, ruler and painter's tape to mark out a linear chevron design on the wall and paint between the lines to create the pattern.

### MODERN MONOCHROME

Work chevrons into a black-and-white scheme to jazz it up. Choose accessories in monochrome shades to keep the look minimalist, or go for punchy neon brights for a truly colourful, super-modern finish.

### PATTERN HIT

Have some fun with this cheerful design and introduce complementary patterns into your styling. Team bold chevrons with small polka-dot prints for a playful contrast, or mix different scales of zigzags for a smart look.



# Steal Polly's idea... GIVE WALLS FRESH NEW STYLE

Be inspired by these showstopping projects to transform plain walls into a dramatic statement so they take centre stage in your scheme

**V**iew your plain walls as the perfect blank canvas to try out all your clever decorating ideas. Experiment with amazing wallpaper, subtle paint effects, wall stickers or artwork, or put up funky storage.

The key is to be brave about the look you want to achieve, then adapt it to suit the size, shape and features of your room.

## Try a new coat

Paint is the speediest way to transform a room and there are many different finishes available, from metallic to suede effect, so get creative. For a less full-on result, go sparingly with darker colours, especially in a small room. Also remember that lighter tones can cool down a space, so balance with warmer accessories if you prefer a cosy feel. And you don't have to stick to the walls – why not paint your ceiling in a colour other than white?

## Display creativity

Walls are ideal for showing off a collection, too – a group of mirrors, lights or unusual ornaments are good choices. Look at what objects you already own and think how they could be better displayed – maybe theme them by style or colour.

Is there a major feature in the room that will dictate how walls are furnished, such as a fireplace, bookshelves or bed frame? If so, decide which wall would look best dressed with strong patterns or paint colours. Bear in mind the amount of light the room gets – intense designs such as faux wood can absorb a lot of light, so it may be best to limit them to one wall and keep remaining surfaces a pale shade.

## Writing on the wall

A dark colour can make a fantastic feature in a room, and accessories look amazing against it. By using blackboard paint you'll have a wall that doubles up as a noticeboard. And there's no need to limit it to the kids' drawings – grab your chalks and get creative yourself! Try Rust-oleum magnetic chalkboard paint, £14.99 per 750ml, Homebase.



Try a black wall in the kitchen for a dramatic change from white



### Store more

Assign one wall entirely to shelving and store your possessions in an orderly fashion. Floor-to-ceiling shelving looks great if there are various sizes of cubby hole, and you could even decorate the wall behind the shelves with a contrasting paint or wallpaper to add colour and interest. Try the Cleo wide bookcase in White, £295, Habitat at Argos



### Blurred lines

When using two or more paint colours, try grading the intensity of the shades. Use the richer hue at the base and soften the edges between the different colours, creating a misty effect. It's a good way to add warmth to pale colour schemes. Copper Blush; Caramel Blush 5, both £24.99 per 2.5ltr, Dulux Mixlab



### Multiple choice

Mirrors look great grouped on a wall, but when lined up symmetrically they give a more formal, controlled display. Particularly effective in a hallway or living room, this design will help to open up a space. For similar, try Marlo square oak frame mirror, £95, Habitat

BREAK UP A DRAMATIC DECORATING SCHEME WITH ONE PLAIN WALL TO STOP THE ROOM FEELING OVERLOADED



### Bright idea

Good lighting makes all the difference to a room, but give it an extra boost with a neon letter. Set against a dark wall, it gives a kitchen or living room a warm glow. Reminiscent of cityscapes, neon gives an urban edge to your interior.

Try the Neon letter light, from £49.95, Notonthehighstreet.com



Get even more decorating ideas – sign up to our free newsletter at [housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist](http://housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist)



### Super-size style

There's an array of fantastic faux-effect wallpapers on the market from stone to salvaged wood, concrete to cable knit.

They create real impact and you can even have a mural made from your own images to really personalise your space. Try Old Wooden Wall mural, Photowall



# Make Polly's SLOGAN ROPE-LIGHT SIGN

Have a go at this straightforward DIY project to create a striking focal point and channel an industrial-chic vibe in your home

**G**ive your room an on-trend update with a homemade statement light that spells out a favourite word or slogan.

We attached ours to a plywood base and kept it natural for a clean look, but why not play around with colour by painting or whitewashing the wood before you start? Practise writing the letters out before you begin so you can be sure you're happy with the effect and that they all join up smoothly.

## HOW TO

TAKES 2HRS COST £36.80

- \* 110 x 60cm piece of plywood (cut to size in store if necessary)
- \* Pencil & ruler
- \* Drill & 18mm drill bit
- \* 2 x packs of 15mm pipeclips, £3.40 for pack of 10, B&Q
- \* Hammer
- \* 25mm nails
- \* Rope light, £30, B&Q



GET CREATIVE AND HAVE A GO AT ADAPTING THIS PROJECT WITH DIFFERENT-COLOURED LIGHTS TO MAKE A FUNKY HEADBOARD OR PIECE OF WALL ART

**1** With a ruler and pencil, draw a straight line across the long side of the plywood, 10cm from the bottom edge. Using this as a guide to mark the bottom of your letters, draw your word across the surface lightly in pencil. Using the 18mm drill bit, drill one hole at the start of your first letter, 10cm from the side and bottom edges.

**2** Following the pencil lines, mark on where each pipeclip will go to hold the rope light in place. Try to position the clips in the curves of the letters where the rope needs the most support to stay in place and make sure they are evenly spaced. Carefully hammer the clips into the plywood using the nails.

**3** Thread the rope light through the large drilled hole and pull it all the way through to the front of the wood, so that only the plug is left behind. Starting at the end of the last letter, clip the light into each pipeclip to form your word. Pull any excess rope light back through the hole to hide it at the back of the sign.



1



2



3

# Have you gone noseblind?

What you smell



What your  
guests smell



**NEW** SCENTS

Continuously eliminates odours  
and freshens for 90 days.

Each refill lasts up to 90 days if used for 12 hours per day at minimum setting.

Breathe Happy

**WARM UP**

'The fireplace is the focal point of the room and we planned our layout around it'

**GREAT IDEA**

'Brighten a dark sofa with colourful soft furnishings'

# 'I added charm with VINTAGE PIECES'

*Stylist at Home Sarah, 33, took on a big job renovating her first home, but now she can sit back and enjoy a place that's just as she wants it*

**COSY CORNER**

'The padded window seat and footstool add texture to this light-filled spot'

**MY HOME...**

**ABOUT ME** I'm Sarah Hutchings, 33, a swimming teacher, and I live with my husband Simon, 36, a freelance graphic designer, our daughter Erin, who is now six months old, and Tatty the cat.

**MY HOME** A two-bedroom, semi-detached Victorian house in Bushey, Hertfordshire, bought in 2012.

**WHEN I BOUGHT IT** We were excited about its potential and having a home, but knew there was a lot of work to be done. Structurally, the house was sound, but internally, there was a huge amount to do.

**AND NOW** We have renovated the whole house. It has a cosy but modern feel to it, combined with traditional elements.

**STYLE TIP** Paint floorboards in a neutral colour to make the rooms light and airy.

**W**hen we first bought our house, it turned out to be on the same street where we were renting at the time,' says Sarah. 'This was a godsend, as we were lucky enough to be able to carry on renting for a month after completing, which meant we could get a lot of the messier jobs done before actually moving in.

We'd seen the potential in our new house and already knew that we liked the area - it's in a really convenient place and close to family - so we snapped it up. But despite the great location, the house had lots of problems and we knew every room would need to be revamped. There were rotten windows, the kitchen and bathroom were falling apart and we even had a slug problem due to damp!

**Work begins**

We started by having the house completely rewired and fitted with new gas piping, and also installed new radiators in each room. Soon after, UPVC sash windows were put in to replace the worn-out 1970s glazing.

After these 'house-wide' jobs had been completed, we turned our attention to the kitchen. We'd hoped that putting new doors and drawer fronts on the existing units would refresh the space, but that was before we realised just how bad a state it was in. The oven wouldn't close and the shelves inside the cupboards kept falling down. Worst of all, the pipes under the sink leaked, causing damp, so we'd wake up every morning to slug trails around the house. Replacing the kitchen quickly became top of a very long list!

We went for an affordable, hand-made wooden design from Murdoch Troon, as we like a more traditional look, but mixed it with modern accessories. My sister works for Fired Earth, so she bought us the wall tiles as a gift, and I used a dark grout, which enhances the pattern. We sourced floor tiles from Tons of Tiles in Plymouth, which offered a great selection at very >>

**VISUAL BORDER**

'We angled the sofas inwards to distinguish the living area from the dining space'



**COOL MIX**

'Don't be afraid to use frames in different colours and sizes. And, if they're looking a bit tired, give them a coat of paint'

**Buy it**

Find a stylish oilcloth to protect your dining table

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**VINTAGE CHARM**

'I upcycled this old pantry unit with paint and new handles'



affordable prices. Red accessories give the kitchen a bold look, alongside the neutral units and black appliances.

Next on the list was the open-plan living and dining room, where we had to replaster the ceiling after discovering the woodchip wallpaper was concealing cracked plaster. When we were finally ready to paint, we picked a neutral shade for all the walls downstairs to keep the house bright and link each area together. The colours of the accessories also create a homogenous feel. I love to sew and crocheted all of the throws and cushions myself. It took time, but it adds a personal touch to the room and makes it unique and special to us. It's a bit of a mish-mash, but it all works well together to create a homely feel.

**Design choices**

In terms of my style, I like a relaxed, rustic look, which is individual and practical. I don't need things to be perfectly matched, which makes finding affordable furniture

much easier. I love scouring vintage shops for bargains. For example, we bought the wine rack from a junk shop on a weekend trip to Brighton. We also recently replaced our Ikea dining chairs with mismatching ones from junk and antiques shops. Our old chairs were fabric covered and although comfortable, they were highly impractical with a baby, as they couldn't be wiped clean.

The dining room wall is a real feature, with its eclectic mix of frames, a vintage barometer and roe-deer antlers – yet more antique finds. The butterfly is a cross-stitch that I made and had framed. To add some period character back into the space, we chose to fit reproduction plaster coving. There are next to no original features in the house, which is a shame for a Victorian property, but I think our style makes up for that and we've tried to be sympathetic to the building's heritage.

With the downstairs finished, we began work upstairs, where both bedrooms >>

## 3 style buys



**MAKE IT**  
Sunflower blanket  
crochet kit, £105,  
[Notonthehigh  
street.com](#)

**SUPER SOFT**  
Tejn faux  
sheepskin,  
£10, [Ikea](#)



**BABY BLUES**  
Pastel Blue jug,  
£7.99, [Homesense](#)



### MAGIC NUMBER

'I often put three accessories in a row for uniformity'



### BRIGHT HUE

'Bold accessories add colour to an otherwise neutral space, making it feel fun and lively'



**'PICK SHINY BLACK APPLIANCES FOR A COOL CONTRAST TO WHITE KITCHEN UNITS AND WALLS'**

## Stylists at Home



**AIMIE SAYS**  
'If you have a neutral-coloured kitchen it's a great idea to use colourful accessories to modernise the space, just like Sarah has done with bold red kitchen equipment.'

### HIGH LIFE

'Add interest and height with dried grasses and different-sized vases in opposing colours'



**WORK SPACE**

'The garden office has a very calm and uncluttered feel, which makes it the ideal place to work'

**Hit the shops**

Where to go and what to buy to get Sarah's style

\* **COSY UP** Nothing says vintage like a crochet blanket. If you don't fancy making your own, have a browse of the selection on Etsy.

**BATHROOM GLAMOUR**

Add a touch of elegance to your bathroom with monochrome accessories, such as the George Home Butterfly Shower Curtain, £8.

\* **KEEP IT VIBRANT** Add red accents to your kitchen, as Sarah has done, and update your whole scheme instantly at a fraction of the price of changing the units. Try Dunelm's Red Spectrum cast-iron casserole dish, £29.99, for a hit of colour.

\* **STYLE TOUCH** Recreate the look of the fun and stylish nursery by hanging felt ball garlands, from £16 at Pom Pom Galore. They'll work especially well against neutral walls.

\* **COVER UP** Paint floorboards in a pale colour for a light and bright effect. Farrow & Ball's Off-White floor paint, £58 for 2.5ltr, will provide a similar look to the floor in Sarah's bedroom.

'WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH ROOM FOR AN OFFICE IN THE HOUSE, SO WE HAD ONE PUT INTO THE GARDEN INSTEAD'

**CHIC & SLEEK**

'The trio of vases are from Ellen Tunstall Ceramics'

**Stylists  
at Home**

**TARA SAYS**  
'I love how the industrial-style tiles in the kitchen are mixed with the farmhouse feel of the Belfast sink. The painted fireplace is a bold move and gives the room a quirky vibe.'

**CRAFTY TOUCHES**

'I make raggy bunnies (on the top shelf), which I sell on Etsy - they're ideal for the nursery'

**Make it**

Use pom poms to make quirky decorations

PAGE 42





### GREAT IDEA

'Paint one or two walls in a darker colour to add interest to your scheme'

### Do it

Get online savvy to find the best bargains  
PAGE 40

### BARGAIN HUNT

'All our bedroom furniture is oak, but we got it very cheaply on eBay'

needed a complete overhaul. Stripping back several layers of wallpaper caused the Victorian plaster to fall off the walls, so we ended up having to reboard and plaster again. We also had to replace a lot of the floorboards with old wood that we found at a reclamation yard, as the originals were either rotting or the wrong size. We then sanded and painted them in a pale shade that really lightens the space.

### Creating calm

In the main bedroom, we chose the same neutral paint as we'd used downstairs to give a feeling of continuity – it's such a relaxing colour. Then we painted two of the walls in Fired Earth's Storm, which was also used downstairs on the dining room storage unit. I love the colour and it definitely livens up the bedroom walls.

We found the fireplace and mirror while on holiday in Cornwall. They were in an outbuilding of a farm where we stayed, and it was only after I bought them from the owners of the property that I realised just how heavy they were – transporting them was a little tricky! I haven't painted

the fireplace, as I like its distressed finish and it also provides a hit of bright colour.

Our bedroom cost less than £300 to kit out, as we sourced most of our furniture on eBay. Amazingly, it's all made of solid oak. The Danish bedside cabinets were bought from a local shop that was shutting down and are vintage and beautifully made. We also found great second-hand buys for the nursery, which means the furniture is a bit mismatched, but it's great that we can easily replace a piece if it gets ruined. I'm not keen on pink so we went for yellow for a bright and modern feel.

After we finished the nursery, we realised that Simon would need an office, so we decided to fit a timber garden one from The Garden Office Company. It's proved perfect, as he now has the space to run his graphic-design business – and it also gives me a space to do my sewing.

In the process of doing up our house, we've learnt so much about what style we like and how to achieve it on a budget by being thrifty and by upcycling. We've still got a few projects to finish off, but we're really proud of the home we've created.'

WORDS HELENKA MACIEJ-HILL PHOTOGRAPHS JAMIE MASON



### SAFE HAVEN

'I chose relaxing Storm by Fired Earth for two of the walls in the main bedroom'



See inspiring house tour videos and ideas at [housetohome.co.uk/styleathome](http://housetohome.co.uk/styleathome)



# Buy Sarah's style OILCLOTH FABRICS

Add a practical touch to your own table with these beautiful oilcloth fabrics, from just £8.99 per metre

**W**ether you're after a stylish new table covering or some pretty fabric for your craft stash, follow Sarah's lead and pick up some PVC fabric to give your home a speedy update.

The great thing about oilcloth fabrics is that you can do simple projects without the need to sew a hem – ideal for beginners or those wanting to build up confidence. We've scoured the high street and online to find 10 brilliant buys to suit every style!



**£12**

Add country charm.  
Blue Paris oilcloth  
fabric,  
OILCLOTH UK

BRIGHT  
BIRDS

**£8.99**

Add a playful touch.  
Flamingo PVC fabric,  
DUNELM

**£12.80**

Set an autumnal  
scene. Stags oilcloth  
in Charcoal,  
NORFOLK TEXTILES



**£26.50**

Liven up your  
tabletop. Crazy Pots  
oilcloth fabric,  
NEW HOUSE  
TEXTILES



**£15**

Channel a nautical  
vibe. Fish PVC fabric,  
JOHN LEWIS



**£12.60**

Unleash the look.  
Hunterhill Dog print  
PVC fabric,  
LAURA ASHLEY



## QUIRKY POTS

**£9.99**

Set sail in style. Add Stripe PVC fabric in Marine, TERRY'S FABRICS


**£22**

Get the cottage look. Classic Flowers oilcloth fabric, CATH KIDSTON



## PRETTY PATTERNS

**£19**

Make a statement with a graphic print. Zigzag oilcloth fabric, BOCONCEPT


**£45**

Rise and shine. Contemporary Dawn Chorus oilcloth fabric, VANESSA ARBUTHNOTT



## GET CREATIVE

Try your hand at these crafty ideas using oilcloth

## TOP TABLE

Update your dining or kitchen table with a simple DIY tablecloth or runner, for a surface that can be wiped clean after use. Use smaller pieces of fabric to make placemats - why not use pinking shears to cut the fabric for funky zigzagged edges?

## IN THE BAG

Have a go at making your own shopping bag using an oilcloth fabric. You can easily customise the size of your bag to suit your needs and add sturdy handles made from the same fabric. Create a matching set by making a small coin purse, too, and sewing on a clasp. You can also experiment by making a drawstring bag that will be perfect for sporting activities after school.

## SMART IDEA

Line the drawers in your bathroom or kitchen with a piece of oilcloth fabric to stop inevitable spills ruining the inside of them. Simply cut to size for a practical yet pretty idea. This technique will look dashing inside the drawers of your dressing table.



Check out Etsy for  
handmade or vintage items  
from individual sellers

**BROWSE SAFELY**  
Ensure that you have  
an adequate online  
security package  
and never share  
your passwords





# Like Sarah, GET CYBER SAVVY

Find unique pieces for your home on auction websites  
– we give you the lowdown on the dos and don'ts

**I**n times gone by, when you were in the market for a secondhand bargain, you'd clear space in your diary and spend an afternoon at the auction houses, charity shops or car-boot sales. But now, so much is available at the click of a button.

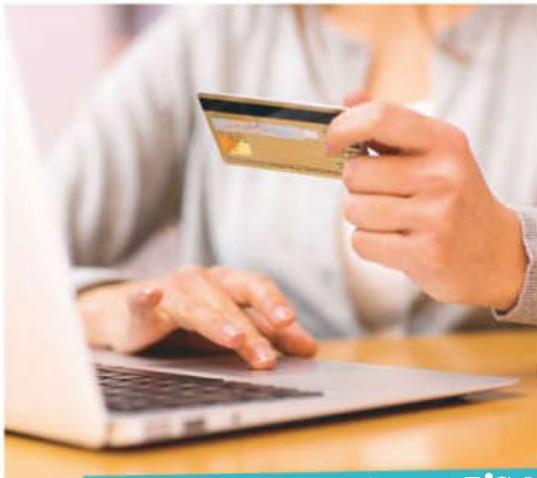
Even if you consider yourself a dab hand when it comes to tracking down a vintage Ercol table or an appealing stack of traditional old suitcases, picking out something similar online will take a whole new set of skills. Luckily for you, we're here to help with these top tips so that you can buy what you want at the best price.

## Points to consider

Nothing compares to seeing an item for sale in the flesh but, failing that, make sure that your computer's colours are accurate and that you have a high-calibre graphics card. If you suspect that the photography on the website you are browsing may not be to a high standard, search for that product elsewhere to see if you can find another photo of it for comparison.

Remember that the price you pay for an item could increase once you go to the checkout, when it starts to include any shipping or VAT costs. If you need to return something, that could also incur another fee. So do your sums and try to determine if the savings you'll get online are really savings at all.

Stores want you to buy from them, so much so that they'll often match another,



## Click here...

Check out our favourite auction and secondhand sites

- \* **EBA** ebay.co.uk
- \* **GUMTREE** gumtree.com
- \* **PRELOVED** preloved.co.uk
- \* **FREECYCLE** freecycle.org
- \* **ETSY** etsy.com/uk/
- \* **FURNITURE ETC** furnitureetc.co.uk

THE ONLY THING THAT'S MORE FUN THAN SPENDING MONEY IS MAKING IT. BEING A SAVVY SELLER WILL MAKE YOU A BETTER BUYER

lower price from elsewhere. Hunt around online for voucher codes – you could save yourself a good 10% or free shipping, so do your research! And, if reviews or feedback are available for any item you have your eye on, read them and heed them.

## Shop around

If you've been researching a product, you may find it with near-substitutes popping up and following you around on the Internet, placing ads for it on every website

you visit. If you're lucky, you'll hit somebody's algorithm for giving you a better deal. For those of you who are impulse shoppers, be careful when you're visiting a flash sale site – these are made for people who impulse shop, because the sale creates a sense of urgency.

Many online auction sites offer Paypal payment options, so it's worth signing up for this online money transfer system so that you don't have to keep entering your debit card details every time you shop.

## HOW TO SHOP ONLINE

Make sure you know the rules and you'll get the best out of it!

### STAY THE COURSE

If you're shopping on eBay, resist offers from sellers to go offline, even if they offer to give you a discount from their savings on eBay and possibly PayPal fees. eBay provides buyer protection and if a problem arises, it will adjudicate. And you have the leverage of leaving negative feedback. Without such

safeguards, you may lose goods or, worse, money.

### BIDDING WARS

If you've lost an eBay item at the last second, you've been the victim of a 'sniper'. In auctions, as opposed to Buy It Now or Make An Offer, items can get stuck on a price for days and sniping software can be used to proxy-bid for you just before an

auction closes. But it does cost you extra and takes the fun out of bidding!

### GOOD RATINGS

As buyers can rate their transaction, feedback can make or break a seller's reputation. On eBay you can discover the context of a dispute, such as poor packaging or slow shipping. Stick to sellers with 100% feedback.

**ONLINE MARKET**  
Take your pick of fab pre-owned furniture on Furniture Etc



# Make Sarah's POM POM WALL DECORATIONS

Brighten up your children's bedroom in an instant with these quick-to-make stars in a playful rainbow palette

**F**ollow Sarah's lead and transform plain walls from drab to fab with this simple DIY project.

Perfect for rental properties, these adorable decorations can be hung with removable hooks to avoid damaging the wall beneath, or on nails for a more permanent feature.

## HOW TO

TAKES 1HR COST £18.59

- ★ 3 x Rainbow Collection wool felt balls, £2.70 pack, Cloud Craft
- ★ Salix 0.8mm silver-plated wire, £2.50, Hobbycraft
- ★ Wire cutters
- ★ Large-headed embroidery needle
- ★ Small wire hooks, £7.99 for 9, 3M Direct (optional)

**1** Lay out your pom poms so you can decide on a colour order before you begin. Secure the wire through the eye of your embroidery needle and then thread this through the centre of your first pom pom, bending the end over to stop it falling off.

**2** Continue to thread the wire through each pom pom until you have a string of around 45. Before you cut the wire, make sure you leave a little extra so that you can hook the two ends together and also create a small hook to attach it to the wall. Bend your pom poms into a star shape.

DO IT IN  
**1hr!**



EXPERIMENT WITH ONE SINGLE COLOUR OR TRY DIFFERENT DESIGNS TO MAKE A UNIQUE WALL DISPLAY – TRY CLOUD OR FLOWER SHAPES

# WIN! £1,000 to buy fab treats at Dunelm

**WIN**  
SEVEN PRIZES,  
EACH WORTH  
**£1,000**

Enter now for your chance to win one of seven gift cards, each worth £1,000, to spend in store



CHAIRS PAINTED BY STYLIST

## 4 ways to enter

**PHONE** Call 0904 160 0654 and leave your answer, name, address and phone number. Calls cost £1.53 plus your telephone company's network access charge.

**TEXT** SAHWIN1 followed by a space and your answer, then your name, house number and postcode to 87088\*. Texts cost £1.50 per entry plus your network charges.

**POST** Fill in the coupon and send to Dunelm/SAH November competition, PO Box 502, Leicester LE94 0AB.

**ONLINE** Visit [housetohome.co.uk/competitions](http://housetohome.co.uk/competitions).

Phone lines open on 23 September 2015 and close at midnight on 4 November 2015. Postal entries must arrive by 9 November 2015. SP: Spoke Ltd 0333 202 3390.

### DINE IN STYLE

Create a striking room with the Eaton table and Alabama chairs

**S**tyle at Home has teamed up with Dunelm to offer seven lucky readers the chance to win a gift card, worth £1,000, to use in store. With over 20,000 great homeware finds, Dunelm has something for every room.

If you're after an autumn update, the Misty Moors range offers rustic, country-inspired pieces in rich-plum and mossy-green hues, while Simplicity is ideal for creating a tranquil scheme.

### New inspirations

For a contemporary look with a sense of fun, check out Dunelm's new Elements range. It fuses modern furniture and bold patterns with colourful accents to create a stylish look that will appeal to everyone.

No matter what you're searching for, Dunelm is a must-visit for homes buys.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** call 0345 165 6565 or visit [dunelm.com](http://dunelm.com)

**TERMS & CONDITIONS** Seven winners will each receive gift cards, worth £1,000 each. No cash alternative. Competition open to UK mainland entrants only. The winners will be contacted directly. The promoter is Style at Home. Prizes supplied by Dunelm. Employees cannot enter. The prize is subject to availability. Service provider is Spoke 0333 202 3390. \*When you enter by text you may get SMS marketing messages from Time Inc. (UK) Ltd and Style at Home. If you don't want to, text with NO INFO. Lines open at 00.01am on 23 September 2015 and close at midnight on 4 November 2015. See page 129 for full terms and conditions.



## ENTRY FORM

Send to Dunelm/SAH November competition, PO Box 502, Leicester LE94 0AB

**Style at Home**

**QUESTION** What is the name of Dunelm's new range?

- A) Electrics B) Elements C) Elephants

### ANSWER

Mrs/Ms/Miss/Mr/Title ..... First name ..... Surname .....

Address (BLOCK CAPITALS)..... Postcode .....

Daytime phone number ..... Home phone number .....

Email address ..... Year of birth .....

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# 'We've created a house THAT IS A TRUE FAMILY HOME'

*Stylist at Home* Lisa, 33, and her husband totally renovated their Victorian terrace from top to bottom

## MY HOME...



**ABOUT ME** I'm Lisa Cowan, 33, and I live with my husband, Mark, 40. I'm a digital editor and blogger, and Mark runs an innovation agency called Happen. We have a daughter, Mimi, who is six months old.

**MY HOME** A Victorian terrace, in Peckham Rye, southeast London, which we bought in August 2012.

**WHEN I BOUGHT IT** The house was very dated and dark with lots of garish wallpaper, mismatched carpets and black-painted wood, not to mention a wood-panelled ceiling in the kitchen. It urgently needed to be brought into the 21st century!

**AND NOW** It's light, bright and comfortable - a very happy space for our little family to exist in.

**STYLE TIP** Keep it simple and stick to neutrals, then add texture and colour with furniture and accessories. Look at magazines and websites for inspiration, and don't rush big decisions such as furniture; live in the space first and see how it works.



## HATS OFF

'Quirky touches add personality to the hall and landing areas'

## Buy it

Check out more unusual lighting finds

PAGE 51

## UNIQUE LOOK

'I've incorporated flashes of colour into our neutral living room with the artwork and accessories'



## STYLE TIP

'Use jaunty colours on furniture to lift and brighten rooms'



## Make it

Try our side table, inspired by Lisa's chair

PAGE 54

**L**ugging our stuff around in a suitcase and moving from one friend's couch to another was really starting to take its toll, so we were over the moon when we finally got the keys to our new home,' says Lisa. 'After six months of renovating, project-managing and living without our things, the thought of enjoying our beautiful, dust-free new home was beginning to seem like a far-off dream.

We were eager to take on a project as it was the only way to afford a house in our preferred area of London, but we definitely weren't prepared for how challenging the renovation would be. From ripping out the walls and bringing down the ceilings, to adding a new extension at the back and creating a utility area, all we've really kept of the original house is the exterior shell.

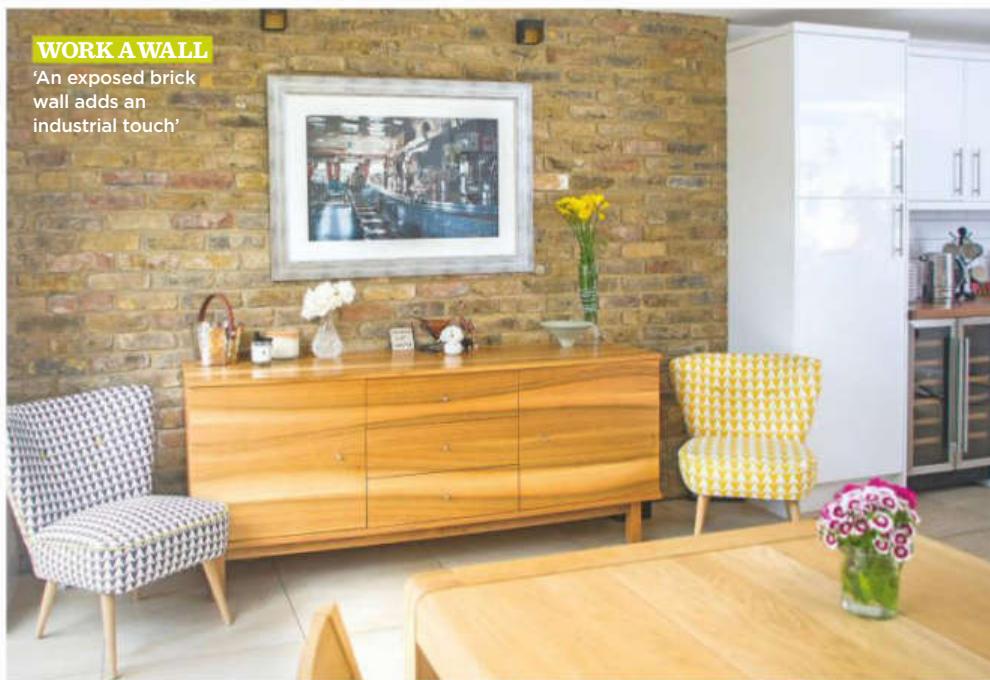
## Professional touch

We spent five months renovating, which meant we couldn't live in the property until January 2013, resulting in lots of staying with friends and ridiculous storage costs. We immediately extended into the side return to open up the kitchen and create a utility room and downstairs loo in the back part of the double reception room. It's a space I can't imagine living without now – it has been invaluable since having our daughter Mimi and all her bits and bobs.

Luckily there were no problems or hitches along the way thanks to our brilliant builder, who doubled up as the project manager. Plus, the fact that I was on site every morning to answer any questions and check progress helped keep everything on track. Our builder brought in all the skilled labourers, tilers, plasterers, and electricians we needed. It was a >>>

#### WORK A WALL

'An exposed brick wall adds an industrial touch'



'WE LOVE SPENDING TIME TOGETHER IN OUR KITCHEN-DINER; IT'S A GREAT MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACE'

#### Do it

Find out how  
to go open-  
plan in your  
own home  
**PAGE 52**

#### LET THE LIGHT IN

'Skylights and bi-fold doors flood this space with natural light'



#### GREAT IDEA

'Choose a wooden worktop to soften a pure-white kitchen scheme'

» great way to get the job done smoothly because he knew exactly when he needed to use all the different tradespeople, and also how long each job would take.

#### All-over makeover

We renovated the entire house at the same time so that every room had the makeover treatment – walls and ceilings came down, rotten floorboards were pulled up and the property was replastered, rewired and replumbed. We also replaced all the windows and doors, inside and out and revamped both the front and back gardens, including putting in new fences and laying paving. Initially, I just hoped for a house that I could call a home in London, but the deeper I got into the project, the more I really wanted to create a space that I was proud of and was a true family home for us, and hopefully other families in years





## URBAN DESIGN

'White units, Metro-style tiles and industrial lighting ensure our kitchen-diner looks stylish'

## 3 style buys

## NATURE'S BEST

Mono leaf frame, £40, Next



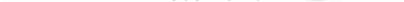
## MELLOW YELLOW

Groove On Yellow cushion, £20, Hunkydory Home



## SHINE ON

Julien Macdonald lamp, £80, Debenhams



## Stylists at Home



**SARAH SAYS**  
'Don't be afraid to mix up different styles. The mid-century pieces in the open-plan space work really well with the modern, industrial touches in the kitchen.'

to come. We knew we wanted to try for a baby and it wasn't long before Mimi came along at the beginning of 2015.

## Artistic choices

Getting stuck into the decor is what I was most excited about. So when the dust had settled and the builders had left, I set about adding personality to the space. I kept the walls neutral because I love art and adding colour and pattern via prints, pictures and furniture. We buy most of our art at the local Artists Open House every May (you'll find paintings, textiles and pottery there) and our big pots are from a fantastic ceramicist called Daniel Reynolds.

The artwork and photographs all have meaning for us and we've spent a lot of time choosing pieces that hold significance - I like to think it's what makes our home different. As well as art, most accessories >>

## TAKE A SEAT

'I personalised my Habitat dining chairs with a monochrome printed fabric'



## Hit the shops

Where to go and what to buy to get Lisa's style

**★ LOOK LOCALLY** Add colour and personality through quirky artwork. Lisa picked up a cute Peckham-inspired design from Place In Print, which hangs proudly above her dining room table.

**★ FIT URBAN FIXTURES** Industrial touches are hot news, especially in the

kitchen. Check out Davey Lighting for maritime-inspired pendants, just like Lisa's Dockside light.

**★ OPEN DOORS** When Lisa had to replace all the internal doors, she opted for a modern design rather than the traditional Victorian panelled door. Find

something similar at specialists, Todd Doors.

**★ SUPPORT TALENT** Design fairs are great places to pick up original pieces, especially those by young, up-and-coming artists. Check local-area magazines and websites to find details of what's on near you.

### STYLE TIP

'Choose a patterned bedspread to liven up plain bedding'

#### VIBRANT TEXTILES

'Yellow and blue accents continue in our spacious family bathroom'



#### CHEERY SCHEME

'Pops of yellow perk up our grey bedroom'

» are from Habitat, as well as online stores Graham and Green and Cox & Cox, plus bits we pick up from design fairs (Tent London is great for furniture and ideas).

### Living the dream

Since moving in, we've pretty much turned it into the space we always dreamt of – clean, stylish and a place our family and friends can enjoy, too. Mimi has her own little bedroom and we love spending time together as a family in our open-plan kitchen-diner. It's a great, multi-purpose space that looks out onto the garden – our own oasis in a busy, noisy city. But because we're in the kitchen all the time, we have to make a conscious decision to go and use the living room in the evening!

Thanks to all the new windows and insulation, it really is a lovely house in the winter. Plenty of jaunty colours throughout



## CLEAN LINES

'Simple wooden furniture works beautifully in our guest bedroom'



**'THE ARTWORK AND PHOTOGRAPHS ALL HAVE MEANING, AND WE'VE SPENT TIME CHOOSING PIECES THAT HOLD SIGNIFICANCE'**

## FAITHFUL FRIEND

'Cute art finds a home on the walls throughout the house'



## Stylists at Home



**LAURA SAYS**  
‘Lisa’s bath looks extremely luxurious. I’d soften the look with a super-soft bath mat to step on to after a long relaxing bath.’

WORDS RACHEL CHRISTIE PHOTOGRAPHS CLAIRE DAVIES

help to lift and brighten each room, no matter what the weather is like outside – very important when you live in the UK!

**Looking forward**

Phase two of our project is about to start, where we'll begin building into the loft, providing us with two further bedrooms and one en-suite bathroom. Although we don't need the extra space right now, we're both self-confessed planners, so we want to expand our little family and stay in the home we both worked so hard to achieve for the foreseeable future.'



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\*When sold separately. All items are subject to availability. Some items may only be available in larger stores but will be available to order from any store. All prices are correct at time of going to press (August 2015). While stocks last. E&OE

# Buy Lisa's style PENDANT LIGHTS

Give your ceiling the wow factor with a stylish pendant to light up your scheme



**W**hether you're looking for an industrial vibe in the kitchen or a playful feel in the living room, statement lighting will help bring it all together. Get creative when it comes to choosing your new pendant light and think about colour, style and material to get the perfect piece. We've done the hard work for you and have rounded up eight fab designs, all for under £100!



WORDS CASSIE PRYCE

**£95**

Pick out the Antwerp metal ceiling light for a geometric finish, HABITAT

SHINE ON!

**£55**

Pop the Brass Geo light pendant above the table for a touch of luxury, HOUSE JUNKIE

**£27**

Keep it natural by choosing the Joyce bamboo effect shade, B&Q

**£22**

Show off the red metal pendant for retro diner style, SAINSBURY'S

## STYLE SECRETS

Take in our switched-on tips

### SIZE MATTERS

Choose a pendant that works with the proportions of your room and fits the statement you want to make. A larger design creates drama, while smaller pendants are better when hung in a group.

### HANGING OUT

Work out how low you want your lighting to hang before it's fixed. If it's in a hallway, for example, you'll want it higher up than if it's going to sit above a dining table.

### SET THE MOOD

Create the perfect setting by mixing different lighting options. Table and floor lamps set a relaxed scene in a living room, while task lamps are vital for a home office.



### Tone or contrast

Choose a scheme in complementary colours to define each zone, or go for a feature wall in the living room and pick out contrasting shades in the accessories within the dining area to achieve a cohesive look. Pastel shades will work well against white kitchen cabinets without overpowering them. Colours paint collection, from £9.98 per 2ltr, B&Q

### Consider underfoot

Different flooring in the dining and living spaces will create separate 'rooms'. Make sure to choose similar shades in each or add a rug to mark out a specific zone. Go for a patterned tiled floor in the living area if you want something a bit different. The design will add interest and tiles will go well with wooden kitchen flooring.

Moments floor and wall tiles, £15.02 per sq m, Tile Mountain

## Steal Lisa's style...



# MAKE YOUR OWN OPEN-PLAN AREA

Whether you have a kitchen-diner or a studio, open-plan living is possible, thanks to these tips and tricks

Open-plan living has become part of our everyday lives. From a home office within a living room to a kitchen-diner, these spaces should be well designed and able to utilise the best of the overall room in their function.

Clever decorating and styling ideas will keep each area looking separate but seamless. Sound complicated? Well, fear not, as we have compiled our top five tips for making the most of your open-plan space, without breaking the bank.

### Hardworking storage

There's nowhere for mess or clutter to hide in open-plan living, so make clever storage choices. Doorless cupboards can add interest if you want to display accessories. Or choose freestanding storage, such as a shelving unit, in order to break up space and divide rooms. Metod kitchen with Veddinge white doors, from £1,855, Ikea





**FOR A UNIFIED LOOK, GO FOR A COORDINATING RANGE OF FURNITURE. THIS WILL NOT ONLY LINK EACH SPACE BUT IS ALSO COST EFFECTIVE**



### Interesting accents

Use accessories, whether it's a statement rug or a collection of vases, to form a focal point. As the area is so spacious and open, create a feature with a fab floor lamp or geometric-print cushions. Choose earthy neutrals for a cosy space. A feature wall will hold the whole look together and can be complemented by matching accessories.

**Driftwood wallpaper, £26.99,  
Wallpaperdirect**

WORDS ROSALIND ERSKINE

### Functional furniture

Go for multitasking furniture if your room is lacking space. A simple desk in an office can act as a dining table, and a small island in a kitchen could double up as an eating area.

**Wewood Bolsa desk, £2,928;  
Tradition fly chair in white oiled oak, £1,499, both Houseology**



### LIGHTING TIPS

Clever illumination will bring life and warmth to each corner of your space

#### CREATE DEFINITION

Choose separate lighting for different areas in the room; for example, table lamps in a living space and pendant lights in a dining area. This will help to define each zone.

#### SECTION THE SPACE

Divide an area by using a large, arc-design floor lamp, which can be placed in between the various working and living spaces to act as an unobtrusive partition.

#### SMALL SOLUTIONS

Embrace compact spaces by illuminating them with wall sconces, which can also be painted in a contrasting colour to form a striking feature.

#### MAKE IT WORK

Think carefully about the function of each space to ensure that they're lit accordingly. Living areas can have softer lighting to project a welcoming glow, whereas desk areas or dining tables need to be much brighter.

#### GET CREATIVE

Consider installing either LED or in-floor lighting for illumination with a difference in each space.



# Try Lisa's style... ROPE-WRAPPED SIDE TABLE

Get inspired by the rush-weave finish on Lisa's seat and make your own smart side table using rope for a natural, textured feel

**W**e've really fallen for the statement chair in

Lisa's living room and have created a funky side table to tie in with the look.

Using two wastepaper bins and a length of rope, this step-by-step project is perfect for beginner crafters and can be completed in an afternoon. If you want to add a splash of colour to your design, why not try dyeing the rope beforehand and alternating between different shades as you steadily work upwards?

## HOW TO

TAKES 3HRS COST £25.88

- ★ 2 x Fniss wastepaper bins, 95p each, Ikea
- ★ Glue gun
- ★ Cutting mat & scalpel
- ★ Pencil
- ★ 38 x 38cm piece of thick foam board
- ★ 2 x 8mm sisal rope, £11.99 for 15m, Homebase

COSTS  
UNDER  
£26!



CONTINUE THE LOOK WITH MATCHING  
ACCESSORIES – WRAP ROPE AROUND THE BASE OF  
A HURRICANE LAMP FOR A COASTAL VIBE

**1** Turn one wastepaper bin over so the opening is face down. On the upturned surface, apply two rings of glue using a hot glue gun. Stick the base of the second bin onto the glue and hold in place for a few seconds. Make sure the edges are all aligned neatly and wipe away any excess glue that may escape from the sides.

**2** Once the glue has set, take the sheet of foam board and draw around the base of the joined bins to mark out a circle. Carefully cut this out using a scalpel and cutting mat. Using the hot glue gun, stick this disc to the top of one bin; this will become the table top. Make sure the disc is well aligned before leaving the glue to dry.

**3** Starting at the base of your side table, use the hot glue gun to stick the rope in place, working upwards around the bins. Do this in small sections and pinch the rope together as you go to avoid any white showing through. Once you reach the table top, work inwards in a spiral shape to cover the top with rope.





Karndean  
Designflooring

## Crayon vs. Karndean: Anna's Story

"I remember a week after we'd had Karndean laid in the lounge we had family visit. The kids were in the living room colouring, and I walked in to find a great big yellow line of crayon across the floor!"

"But I needn't have worried because it cleaned off so easily - it took less than five minutes and I learnt a lesson that day!"

Watch Anna's story at:  
[karndean.com/anna](http://karndean.com/anna)



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***It could be designer...***

# WOVEN TRUNKS

Try your hand at creating a luxury lookalike for a fraction of the cost

**G**ive your storage solutions a facelift with this simple weaving project, inspired by the beautiful Chindi boxes from Graham

and Green. Whether you're in need of somewhere to hide away your living room clutter or stash bathroom toiletries, these vibrant trunks will brighten up any room.

**TAKES 2HR COST £18.09\***

\* Small maize leaf trunk, £9.99, Dunelm \* 9m x 15mm Berisford satin ribbon in Emerald, 45p per m, Whichcrafts? \* 9m x 15mm Berisford satin ribbon in Fuchsia, 45p per m, Whichcrafts? \* Glue gun \* Fabric scissors

**1** Starting at the back, tie the green ribbon to the trunk and weave it around the bottom of the basket. Cut and tie the ribbon once it has been all the way around and repeat with a pink ribbon, building up the layers as you work all the way up.

**2** To cover the lid, use a glue gun to attach one end of the ribbon to the outer edge of the basket and weave across the top in a straight line. Glue the other end to the opposite edge. Repeat until the surface is covered.

**LESS THAN  
£19**



**SPLASH OUT**

Chindi storage box, from £62.50 each, Graham and Green

Choose ribbons that complement your interior colour scheme





Vintage binoculars help Laurie spot some bargains!



The girls are spoilt for choice



A deal is done, with change to spare



### The £20 Challenge!

# From trash to TREASURE

Each month, *Style at Home's* Laurie and Emily find an unloved bargain to transform

#### 9am THE MEET

Laurie and Emily arrive at Ardingly International Antiques & Collectors Fair in West Sussex ([iacf.co.uk/ardingly](http://iacf.co.uk/ardingly)), which is the largest event of its kind in the south of England and just an hour away from London. The sun is shining and there's up to 1,700 stalls inside and out – so with plenty of treasures to discover, the girls start to browse for their bargain buy!



Leather chairs make a great rest stop

#### 10am ON THE HUNT

Torn between all the fantastic buys on offer, Emily spots a few chairs that would be great to revamp, while Laurie has her eye on an amazing decorative mirror and some vintage jelly moulds.

#### 11am TIME TO HAGGLE

It's only when the girls see the beautifully ornate silver trays a few stands on that a plan falls into place. They pick out two circular designs (one large, one small) and do a deal to get them both for under £20, plus there's change to spare.

#### 11.30am THREE IS THE MAGIC NUMBER

The search is on to find a third, medium-sized tray and they don't have to rummage for long. A few stalls down, they find what they're looking for – and it's within budget.

#### 1pm MAKE A NOTE

Happy with their purchases, the girls discuss what they want to do with the trays and it's a unanimous decision that they'd look fabulous if they were mounted on a wall. Finally, it's back to the office to upcycle the buys into unique notice boards – perfect for a hallway or kitchen.

Take a magnet with you to check your tray is magnetic before buying

**TAKES  
3hrs**

KEEP YOUR EYE OUT FOR A TRAY WITH HANDLES SO YOU CAN HANG IT WITH A PRETTY VINTAGE RIBBON



## NOTICE BOARDS

Revamp metal trays into a practical and pretty wall display

- 1 Take three metal trays and remove any tarnish with Quickshine Silver Bath from Lakeland. Then decide which one you want to transform with blackboard paint, which you want as a pinboard and ensure the other is magnetic to use as a notice board.
- 2 For the blackboard tray, paint the inner circle of the platter with primer – you may need to mask off the inner rim, unless you have a very steady hand. Leave to dry, and then follow with two coats of blackboard paint.
- 3 Take the tray you want as a pinboard and measure the diameter of the inner face. Set a compass to half of the diameter measurement and on the back of a piece of adhesive cork board, draw a circle to fit. We used a piece of cork that was 10mm thick, but this will differ depending how deep your tray is. Using a scalpel, cut out the circle, peel off the backing and stick the cork to the tray.
- 4 Fix the three boards on a wall and use to make notes and pin postcards, photos or anything else you'd like.

LEFT Phoebe by Albany wallpaper in Cream, £12.50 per roll, Wallpaperdirect. Toulouse console table, £99.99; Silver Jazz Age ceramic telephone, £7.99; Duck egg letter rack, £9.99; Ellen resin heart table lamp, £24.99, all Dunelm. Gisela Graham natural wood keys box, £5, The Contemporary Home

See the £20 Challenge and step-by-step project videos at [housetohome.co.uk/20poundchallengenovember](http://housetohome.co.uk/20poundchallengenovember)

# Give it a go! REVAMPS AT HOME

Update existing furniture and accessories  
with our step-by-step upcycling ideas

## COPPER VASES

Transform your unused vases into cute containers

TAKES 3HRS COST £5.52

- Old ceramic bottles or vases
- Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch Copper Craft Enamel, £5.52 for 150ml, Transtools



COSTS  
UNDER  
£3

- Clean the vases to make sure they are free from grease and dust, then dry. Working outside on a sheet of cardboard, spray each vase with a layer of paint.
- Apply several layers of spray paint, leaving to dry between coats. Allow to dry completely before handling.

Albany Distressed Planks wallpaper,  
£19.99 per roll,  
Wallpaperdirect

CREATE  
A SMART  
LOOK



## CHIC SIDE TABLE

Channel an industrial vibe with this nifty piece of furniture

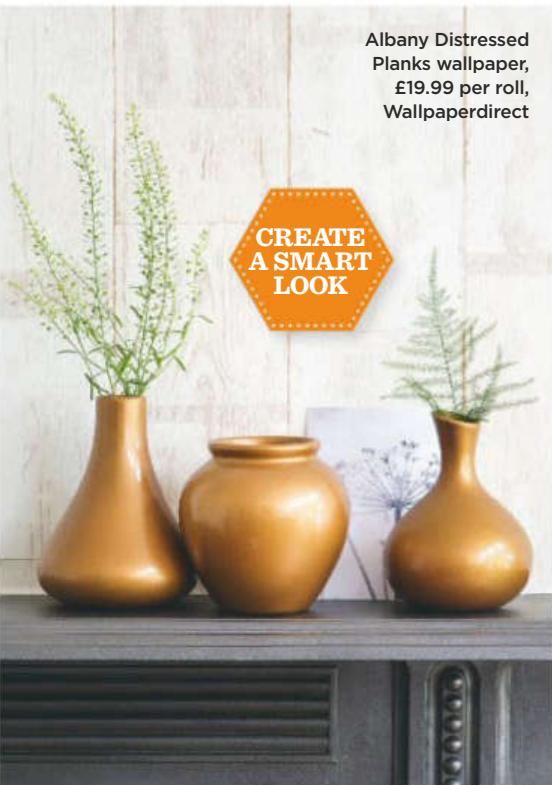
TAKES JUST 1HR! COST £2.48

- Metal wastepaper bin, 99p, charity shop
- Wooden lazy Susan, £1.49, charity shop
- Drill with metal drill bit
- Small screws
- Tape measure

- Turn the lazy Susan over and unscrew the lower part so you are left with a flat

wooden circle for the tabletop. Stand the bin upside down and drill three holes in the flat metal base at the points of a triangle.

- With the tabletop laying face down on the floor, place the bin on top with the drilled base touching the wood. Use a tape measure to check it's central on the surface and screw through the holes into the wood to secure.



Kitchen prints, £13.95 each, Old English Company. Utility letters tray, £5, Wilko. Jam jar glasses, £3 each, Matalan;



TEST  
YOUR  
SKILLS

## CHOPPING BOARD CLIPBOARDS

Showcase striking artwork with these unusual displays

**TAKES JUST 1HR! COST £11.95**

★ Wooden chopping boards, £5 for two, Asda ★ Small metal bulldog clips, £6.95 per pack, Amazon ★ Small screws ★ Measuring tape & pencil ★ Bradawl ★ Screwdriver

**1** Lay the chopping boards flat and position the clips where you want them to be attached. Use a measuring tape to ensure the clips are equidistant from the upper side and edges.

**2** Make a pencil mark on the board through the hole in each clip and remove the clips. Use a bradawl to make a small hole at the pencil mark. Thread a small screw through the clip's back hole and push the tip into the hole. Use a screwdriver to tighten the screw, pulling the clip tight onto the board.

## STUDDED LAMPSHADE

Give an unloved table lamp a speedy and stylish update

**TAKES 2HRS COST £3.38**

★ Old table lamp ★ Bronze 5mm round brads, £1.69 for 100 (2 packs needed), Amazon ★ Pencil & tape measure

**1** Use a pencil and tape measure to mark dots around the edge of the lampshade where you want the brads to sit. On our 18cm-diameter shade, they were 1.5cm apart and 1cm from the edge.

**2** Mark a second row of pencil dots parallel to the first but 2.5cm from the edge, and repeat on the other edge of the shade. Carefully push the arms of the brads through the shade at each pencil dot and repeat until all the dots are covered. Spread the arms of the brads flat to the inside of the shade to secure in place.



EASY  
STARTER  
MAKE!

**IF YOU CAN SEE THE ARMS OF THE BRADS INSIDE THE SHADE, USE STRIPS OF WHITE TAPE TO COVER THEM UP**



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Rustic Brick wallpaper, £10 per roll; Love word blocks, £5, both Wilko



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**STYLE  
SCHOOL**  
*Part 3*

# Your ultimate GUIDE TO HEATING

Make sure your home's cosy and comfortable this winter with a heating solution that suits your space perfectly

**A**s the seasons change and winter creeps slowly in, now is the ideal time to assess your home's heating needs and upgrade or install new appliances if necessary. From radiators to woodburners, gas fires to underfloor heating, our essential guide has all you need to know before you buy, with top tips, practical advice, style trends and best buys. As well as heating the house, we also show you how to keep costs down, saving energy and money - ideal with Christmas just around the corner.



## You will learn

- How to find the perfect fire
- All about underfloor heating
- How to heat by room size
- Choosing low-cost radiators
- Smart heating solutions
- Benefits of woodburners
- Styling ideas for heating
- Best home buys for winter ➤

# Getting STARTED

All you need to know to heat up your home, ready for the chilly months ahead

**W**hatever form of heating you go for – and perhaps you'll have different types in various rooms – it's essential to ensure you choose the most effective, cost-efficient and suitable kind for your home and family.

However, with prices for electricity, gas and oil always fluctuating it can be tricky to know which method to pick. Maybe you've never even considered it before and have simply adopted a system that's always been in place. So start now and really think about what will be best for you. Using less energy is the fastest way to cutting bills, but this doesn't mean living in cold, dark rooms.

## First steps

When it comes to fires – electric, gas or others – the first thing to consider is the size of the room. There are regulatory space requirements for a gas fire, for instance, so always check with your retailer before buying. Think about fuel type, too, ease of installation, if there's another source of heating in the room and whether you want to add ambience. Rooms facing north do tend to be cool, so a fire with a good flame effect and large viewing window will warm things up.

If there's no gas supply, you could go for LPG (liquefied petroleum gas), but if that's not an option, then electric fires and heaters are good alternatives.



### ALL AGLOW

Enjoy the effect of flames with the Delius Optiflame 2kW inset electric fire by Dimplex, £429.99



FITTING THERMOSTATIC VALVES TO INDIVIDUAL RADIATORS COULD SAVE BETWEEN £20 AND £50 A YEAR PER HOUSEHOLD ON ENERGY BILLS

## WHAT IS SMART HEATING?

Install the next generation of thermostat and take control of your bills

### SWITCH ON

Control your heating remotely with a Hive thermostat



### GET CONNECTED

Hive, in partnership with British Gas, is a clever thermostat that gives you control of your heating and hot water using your smart phone, tablet or laptop. Whether you're at home, work or on the school run, you can control your home's temperature. Look out for Hive Active Heating 2, which

has just launched with a range of new app features, including Holiday Mode and Heating Boost. You can also customise the thermostat with a frame in a striking colour from Dulux.

**BUY NOW** Hive costs £249 with installation. Other smart thermostats include Nest, PassivLiving Heat and Tado.

### Stylists at Home



**SHARON SAYS**  
‘The warmth of a real fire is cosy but by spending some money on a smart control system, you can make your home more efficient.’



## Be heating savvy

Make an immediate change with our quick and easy tips

### Check your radiators

For radiators, it's the material and dimensions that will determine how much heat is produced. This is measured in BTUs (British Thermal Units), which helps compare different designs. The higher the BTU, the better the output. Consider a heated towel rail, too, to bring warmth to your bathroom. Don't forget to use radiator foil to reflect heat back into the room, and don't block radiators with furniture. You'll save money by bleeding radiators; air, debris and sludge builds up, stopping them from working well. Buy a radiator key from Robert Dyas or a DIY store, place a bowl under the bleed valve, or hold a cloth to it, and turn the key so that a little water and debris escapes. When the hissing stops, it's done. Close the valve with the key. After, you may need to re-pressureise your system.

### Update the boiler

An old boiler costs more to run than a new one, but replacing it is not always the most cost-effective option, as it can cost anywhere between £500 and £2,500. Have it serviced annually to check it is working properly – you could have the heating controls replaced as older ones aren't always accurate.

### THE HEAT IS ON

Go for a trad-style radiator to enhance a period room or add character to a modern space. Take a look at the reproduction designs at Period House Store

### Block up draughts

For instant fixes, tackle draughts at windows with expanding foam to seal gaps, and use brush excluders or seals on both internal and exterior doors – not forgetting your letterbox. You could also install secondary glazing or window film, which will help stop draughts. Hang heavy curtains at windows, too, and close them at dusk to retain the heat.

### Insulate the loft

Installing insulation is one of the simplest things you can do to improve the energy efficiency of your home. A properly insulated loft can stop heat escaping and keep your home warm while saving energy and money. If you have a loft space, then this is the first place to start. Insulation is cheap and easy to install and can save you money on your heating bills. If you already have insulation, check its quality as it may have been installed some years ago. Older insulation is usually below today's recommended levels so you may have to top it up. Wickes has a how-to guide with an online video demonstration showing you how to get started. You could also invest in cavity wall insulation – it's quite expensive, but will pay for itself in savings after a few years. >>

# Choosing a NEW FIRE

From gas and electric to woodburning stoves, pick the perfect fire for your home



Lickering flames create the cosiest feeling in a home, and whether it's real or artificial, an ambient glow can really warm up a room. 'But which fuel type is best?' we hear you ask. Read on and find out.

## Gas fires

The most popular choice is gas, as it's quick, clean, easy to control, highly efficient and available in a range of designs. The latest models can deliver heat efficiencies of up to 89% with heat outputs of 4.8kW, which is an ample primary heat source without the worry of expensive bills. Nowadays you don't even need a chimney, simply go for a fire with a balanced flue, which only requires fitting through an outside wall. Latest trends include large landscape fires with stone interiors, double-sided fireplaces, especially for open-plan spaces, bespoke options and flueless designs. Remember to always use a Gas Safe-registered heating engineer.



## Electric styles

Where gas isn't available, electricity is a great alternative. Easy to install in a matter of minutes, most fires simply plug into a 13 amp socket - perfect for giving the living room a heating makeover with minimal effort. Contact a qualified electrician for the work and make sure they have Part P certification. There's no need for a flue, chimney or any pipework, which offers flexibility as you can install it wherever it suits. Browse different styles: a wall-hung model looks chic without a fireplace, while a modern fire can be really striking in a traditional surround. Other benefits include no regular servicing, no risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and 100% efficiency. Many designs have a flame-only setting that provides a cosy ambience without the heat or cost. Look for remote-control options for extra convenience.



### Woodburning stoves

Often used in addition to a traditional central heating system, woodburners look good in both classic and contemporary interiors. Before you make your choice, consider which type of fuel you want to use: solid (coal or smokeless briquettes) or wood. Each burns in a different way, with various stoves designed to optimise their performance accordingly. Cast-iron stoves can take longer to reach the required temperature but they'll retain heat for longer and continue to radiate warmth after the fire goes out. Steel, on the other hand, heats up quicker, so if you want instant warmth, this is best for you.

Before you buy, you'll need a site survey done by a Heating Equipment Testing and Approval Scheme-registered installer (HETAS) to meet the requirements of Building Regulations. They'll recommend any changes that have to be made in order to comply, and identify the most suitable position for the stove. Some areas of the UK are designated as Smoke Control Areas and if this is the case, your installer or retailer will supply the appropriate burner.

Just like radiators, a stove should be the correct size to deliver the required heat output. The HETAS installer will also be able to advise on this. Remember that woodburners need regular maintenance to ensure that they are working properly.

## Stylists at Home



**TINA SAYS**  
‘A statement fireplace can change the look and feel of a room. Electric fires are great, I always have mine on ‘flame only’ to create a cosy vibe.’

**\* WHICH STYLE?** Radiators come in a variety of fuel options – central heating, electric, dual-fuel and domestic hot water. Always check that the product is suitable for your home and size of the room before you buy.

**\* HOW MUCH HEAT?** Always work out the required heat output for the size of the room. Many suppliers have an online calculator that helps you do this: take a look at [aestus.co.uk](http://aestus.co.uk) and [theradiatorcompany.co.uk](http://theradiatorcompany.co.uk).

**\* DUAL-FUEL** Some radiators are connected to the central heating circuit, but also include an electric element, which enables you to run it as a single radiator without heating the whole house. This is ideal for drying towels on a heated towel rail during summer months.

**\* CONSIDER EFFICIENCY** Radiators with less water inside will need less energy to heat them up, making them cheaper to run. Choose aluminium, as it’s



### 3 of the best

## RADIATORS

Choose from our stylish shortlist



## RADIATOR ROUND-UP

Don't overlook the trusty home staple – the humble wall radiator

a highly efficient material, which gives out heat quickly.

**\* GO UP A SIZE** If you need a large radiator but don't have the space, choose one with a greater depth, which will give a higher heat output without the need for a longer height or width.

**\* THINK STYLE** There are so many designs available that you'll find one to suit any room scheme. And don't overlook radiator covers, either. >

# Underfloor HEATING

Go for a streamlined, modern look free from appliances when you install ground-level heating

**F**itting heating below your floor provides you with comfortable radiant heat and substantial energy savings. With a much lower operating temperature than conventional radiators, it spreads heat evenly across the whole floor with no cold spots. It will also free up walls, as there are no appliances taking up valuable space. And best of all, you could reduce your family's heating and energy bill by at least 10 per cent.

## Which option?

There are two main types to choose from – wet systems, which use heated water pipes beneath the floor, and dry, which have electric cables or mats. With a water-based system, a series of pipes connected to the boiler circulate warm water beneath the floor. It's also possible to connect the pipes to a solar water heating system if you have one. Electric versions on the other hand, use either loose cables or mats with foil heaters for installation beneath soft and resilient floors such as carpet and laminate.

## Home project

A basic electrical system can usually be fitted as a home DIY project, but if you're going down the water pipe route, then you'll need to call the professionals. Companies such as Warmup, Nu-Heat and Myson are all good places to start. Either system can be used for the whole house or individual rooms, which is especially useful in the kitchen and bathroom, where you may have stone or tiled floors. In fact, underfloor heating can be used beneath most floors including wood, carpet and vinyl, as well as stone and tile, but always check before you buy.

## Going hi-tech

Warmup's 4iE Smart Wi-Fi Thermostat allows you to choose the temperature levels, with programmable settings to match your needs. You can also control the heating from a smartphone and learn how your house responds in order to keep warm in the most efficient way.



### ADDED SPACE

With no radiators in sight, walls can be used for extra storage



## OUR TOP PICKS FOR UNDER £131!

Looking for a small fire without the gizmos? Try one of these...



**HOT RED**  
Dimplex MCF15R  
1.5kW micro fire,  
£79.99



**LOG LOOK**  
WL46014G Warmlite  
2000W log-effect stove  
fire, £68, Tesco



**FLAME FLICKER**  
Focal Point Bi-Flame  
Inset gas fire in brass  
effect, £131, B&Q

**NEAT FINISH**

The beauty of underfloor heating is that it creates a streamlined look and frees up wall space

**Stylists at Home**

**AIMIE SAYS**  
‘Installing an electric fire is a budget-friendly alternative to underfloor heating and helps create a focal point, while making the room feel cosy.’

WORDS: HAYLEY GILBERT PHOTOGRAPHS: TIMEINCUKCONTENT.COM



**Q** Will turning radiators off in individual rooms save money?

Yes, of course! It's a waste of money and energy to heat a space when it's not needed. It's wise to close the doors to rooms that are out of use, too, to stop any warm air escaping into cold spaces. If you don't have individual thermostats on the radiators, then you can still shut off the ones you don't need to use, but it's best to call in a plumber, as you could disrupt the entire system. Alternatively, install room thermostats to control the temperature in different spaces – turn down each one by just a degree and you could save between £85 and £90 a year.

**Q** Which is cheaper to operate, a gas or electric fire?

This depends on what you want to get out of the fire. If, for the most part, you just want the fire for effect and to create a cosy ambience, then electric is better. But, if you're looking for a fire to actually heat a room, then gas does tend to be cheaper. Overall, it will depend on your energy tariff, but broadly speaking a kW of gas is half as much as electricity, meaning a gas fire would be the cheaper option when used to heat a space.

## GET IT RIGHT Q&A

Your questions  
answered



**Q** How often should the chimney be swept and can I do it?

Varying factors – such as type of fuel and how often it's used – will determine how often it needs sweeping. Regular cleaning is required to remove soot and creosote, helping to keep the chimney safe and appliances efficient. It's best to seek help from a professional, so call The Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps.



**Q** What are the benefits of owning a freestanding woodburning stove?

According to the folk at Stovax, there are plenty of benefits to installing a woodburning stove. First there's the joy of having a real fire, while also controlling your heating costs by using more sustainable fuel. Wood is a great option to go for as it's renewable and burning it is a carbon-neutral process, meaning it omits around the same as that absorbed by a tree when it grows. A stove has a heating efficiency of up to 86% with most of the heat staying inside your home, rather than going up the chimney, which is another great benefit. So, you can have a stove in other rooms, such as conservatories or family areas, too.

If you've got a burning question (sorry, couldn't resist a pun!), tweet it to us with #askSAH and we'll try and answer it as best as we can! >>



**CHIC DESIGN**  
Go for a sleek look.  
Stovax Vogue Midi,  
from £1,395, Stovax



### COMFY STYLE

#### FEET FIRST

Keep your toes toasty. Nordic slippers, £1, Poundland



**COVER STORY**  
Snuggle down. Folk bedsheets in red, blue and white, £39, Made



### STRAIGHT TALKING

Stop cold air from coming in. Draught excluder, £14, The Contemporary Home

### DRINK ME

Serve hot chocolate. Färgrik mug, 35p, Ikea



### SOFT TOUCH

Curl up to this chic blanket. Kelly Hoppen Alpine faux-fur throw, £63, QVC



### LIGHT SHOW

Create a cosy glow on cool nights. Stag lantern, £6, Wilko

## THE CHEAT'S GUIDE TO *heating*

If your heating is already in place, here's a few best buys to keep you even warmer



### WHAT A HOOT!

Pop in your bed. Snow owl hottie, £19.99, Cotswold Trading



### TAKE A BREAK

Get cuddly on the sofa with a comfy cushion. Catherine Lansfield knitted cushion, £15, Very

### LUXURY SCENT

Light a candle and enjoy a long soak. Scented candle, £20, Sophie Allport



**Don't miss Style School!** Last issue's **The Ultimate Guide to Curtains** is free to download at [cushienumber.co.uk](http://cushienumber.co.uk). Get part 4 – all about painting – in the January issue, on sale 2 December

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# 'My revamp took



## CIRCUS STYLE

'I love oversized pieces, especially these illuminated letters I bought for Marian as a Christmas present'

## MY ROOM...



**ABOUT ME** I'm Gracie Hinitt, a business support services manager by day and jewellery designer by night. I live with my partner, Marian Grendel, in a three-bedroom cottage near Malvern. This is our first home together and we're gradually putting our stamp on it, room by room.

**MY CHALLENGE** My biggest obstacle was the fact that I wanted to cram so much into what is actually a pretty small room. That said, the space had been neutrally decorated, so it was a blank canvas.

**MY WISH LIST** I wanted the look of a cosy, gentleman's study – but with some industrial touches, and a moody, atmospheric colour. I looked at a number of blues, before settling on a shade by Farrow & Ball.



# me ONE WEEKEND!'



*Stylist at Home* Gracie, 29, gave her tired living room a super-speedy glam makeover

I was in the process of buying a different house when this cottage came on the market, so I decided to take a look,' says Gracie. 'As soon as I walked through the front door, I knew it was perfect - I loved the living room, which opens out onto a light-filled conservatory, and as it was a blank canvas, I could really make my mark.

### Starting point

I'd been mulling over ideas for the living room for some time; scouring Pinterest, creating online mood boards and getting inspiration from interiors books and magazines. The house had previously been used as a holiday cottage and had been decorated very neutrally. I wanted a different look in the living room, with deep, moody blues and contrasting white woodwork. I'd considered a number of shades before Farrow & Ball brought out a colour called Stiffkey Blue, which was ideal. It has just the right degree of intensity.

I tend to be quite impulsive about design decisions - my parents renovated a string of houses while I was growing up and I'd often come home from school to the smell of paint, because Mum had decided to redecorate. My partner Marian and I had been in this house for three months and hadn't done anything aside from unpack boxes. So one day, I decided to blitz the entire living room in one go. I got the whole space painted in just one afternoon and the project took only a weekend.

### Choosing the style

I always have paint charts lying around and am often dreaming up new decorating schemes. I like mixing bold colours and natural materials, and we were able to work much of our existing furniture into the scheme, including the leather sofa and upholstered linen armchair, as well as the leather captain's chair. Reusing what you already have is a brilliant way of keeping your costs down.

Fortunately, Marian is more than happy to be guided by me when it comes to interiors - I'm very much in charge of decorating and am always keen to get stuck in. Having been to art college and then specialised in jewellery design, I've always been interested in style and have »



lots of talented, arty friends. I love to surround myself with pieces that have a personal connection or have been crafted by people I know. For instance, the trompe l'oeil artwork of a £10 note displayed on the mantelpiece is by a colleague and another friend made me the miniature chest of drawers on the bookshelf. One of my former tutors made the illuminated letters M for Marian and G for Gracie – they're a real focal point and complement the typographic prints in the room.

### Finishing touches

Although the room is now finished, I've spent the past year adding bits and pieces here and there: ceramics from charity shops, coffee-table books and various soft furnishings. Adding new rugs and cushions is a great way to update a scheme and keep it feeling fresh. I also like to create offbeat pieces myself and am forever looking on eBay for quirky items. I recently created a series of framed vintage luggage labels, which I absolutely love – it's wonderful to have one-of-a-kind artworks to hang on your wall.'

**'PAINTING FURNITURE AN UNEXPECTED SHADE IS AN EASY UPDATE THAT ONLY TAKES A COUPLE OF HOURS'**



### LIBRARY NOOK

'I'm always adding to my reading collection and love scouring bookshops'

## Stylists at Home



### TARA SAYS

'By grouping collections of items like these house lanterns, Gracie's made a lovely feature on a sideboard. They'll produce a warming glow when lit at night.'

## My shopping list

Stiffkey Blue estate eggshell, £38 per 2.5ltr; **Charlotte's Locks sample pot**, £4.25, both Farrow & Ball. Dip-Dye copper vases, £8.95 each; **copper coasters**, £24 for a set of four; **copper candle holders**, £14 each, all Mia Fleur. Medina cushion covers in Ochre and Teal, £4.99 each, Dunelm. **Chevron rug**, from £30, Next. **White metal star**, £75, Baileys Store. **Clock**, £53, Butler & Sweatman. Find similar **Illuminated letters**, from £330 each, Graham and Green. **Vintage suitcases**, £40 each; **tobacco storage tins**, £20; **vintage luggage labels**, £35, all eBay

Check out our blog [cushienumber.co.uk](http://cushienumber.co.uk) for even more affordable, must-have accessories.

# Get Gracie's LIVING ROOM LOOK

Hone Gracie's gentleman's-club style with these character-filled buys



## HEAVY METAL

Add warmth with metallics. Copper angled table lamp, £49, Barker & Stonehouse



## SOFT TOUCH

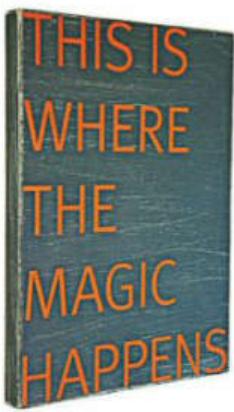
Opt for interesting textiles. Sky Zig Zag cushions, £39 per pair, Furniture Village



STORE IT IN  
STYLE

## VINTAGE LOOK

Stow your treasures. Small metal trunk, £30, House of Fraser



## IT MUST BE A SIGN

Hang some quirky artwork. Vintage sign, £125, Rockett St George



## TIME WILL TELL

Get hands on with heritage style. Bayswater clock, £39, Made.com



## STARS IN YOUR EYES

Add an American classic. Medium Amish tin star, £50, LimeLace



## PRETTY GLOW

Create a warm glow. Bethlehem Lights antique lantern with LED candle, £22, QVC



## FLOOR SHOW

Earn your stripes. Ochre and grey stripe rug, from £90, Next



## LIGHT UP

Lend style to a mantelpiece. Copper twist candlestick, £40, Oliver Bonas

# Style your FIREPLACE

Make the most of your hearth with some clever accessorising and styling ideas

**T**here's nothing quite like a fire in the winter, when you're tucked up under a cosy throw with the flames flickering in the fireplace. However, it's not only the fire itself that can add a magical touch – the surround can also be turned into a fabulous showstopping feature.

Dressing and accessorising the space around the fireplace, whether it's real or faux, can be key to making the best of

it. A large hearth offset by an arrangement of chairs and identical shelving either side is a tried-and-tested classic, and it makes an inviting setting to sit in front of.

You could also try highlighting the chimney wall with colour and pattern, or with accessories. A strong hue can look great against existing mantelpieces

why not try a steely blue teamed with a white fireplace or a dark purple shade against an antique black one?

## Colour focus

Make your fireplace stand out by painting it a warming colour for winter. If you don't have a mantel, make a simple one from a rustic piece of wood – perfect for filling up with big church-style candles or fairy lights for a sparkling welcome.  
**Benedict armchair in Adele Check Natural, £350; Misty floral rug, from £69.99, both Dunelm**



## Introduce shelving

If you have a small fireplace that no longer houses a fire or has been blocked up and plastered over, why not use it as an alcove for shelving to fill an unwelcome gap? This works particularly well in bedrooms for storing books, and also in kitchens by creating extra space for pretty displays.



## Stylists at Home



**LAURA SAYS**  
'Don't just dress your fireplace for Christmas. Update your mantelpiece's look as the seasons change. You could use flowers, narrow runners or garlands of pretty leaves.'



## Add to the mantel

Using a mantelpiece to display a distinctive ornament or accessory is very effective, particularly in bedrooms where the shelf can become a magnet for clutter rather than a potentially stylish space. Oversized letters look great, or position a large-scale print on the wall and leave the mantel free.

**For similar letters, try Fabric Letter Company, from £11.99**

## Good combination

Candles lend themselves perfectly to being arranged in a fireplace, whether contemporary in style or more traditional. Try adding pot plants for extra colour – terracotta looks good against a period grate. Vary heights to prevent it becoming a solid row. **Find Pure pillar candles, from £10 each, The White Company**



## Handy niche

If you're lucky enough to have a large fireplace that's no longer in use, take advantage of the tailor-made niche in which to house a freestanding cupboard. It's especially effective to paint it the same colour as the alcove and the surrounding walls, blending the whole look.

**For similar, try the Country Ash wine rack unit, £219.95, Melody Maison**



## Different display

Go back to basics with monochrome. A fireplace that has been stripped down to plain walls and painted dark will be the ideal background for a display of differing sculptural vases. Make a mix of gloss and matt white surfaces for maximum impact and add one coloured vase to the mix. It's a clever way to store your beautiful vases.

**For similar, try set of three Geo vases, £29, Very.co.uk**



Get even more decorating ideas – sign up to our free newsletter at [housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist](http://housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist)

# 17 ways your home can SAVE THE WORLD!

Embrace eco-friendly living and save pounds on your household bills

**G**oing green doesn't have to be a daunting task that means complicated life changes. Small and simple things can make a difference, and every year, products and ideas are being implemented, making it easier to embrace a greener lifestyle.

As well as saving energy, you can also save money in the long-term, so do look at the bigger picture. There are government grants available for loft and cavity-wall insulation, visit [gov.uk/energy-grants-calculator](http://gov.uk/energy-grants-calculator) for more details. Plus, the introduction of Smart Meters will help you monitor your energy usage efficiently, so you can see exactly where you spend.

Whether you're keen on improving the efficiency of your family home or helping the environment to help the planet, then follow our top tips. At the end of the day it'll cut your bills and save you money!

GET THE KIDS ON BOARD BY ASKING  
THEM TO LOOK OUT FOR LIGHTS LEFT ON,  
AND TO SEEK OUT ANY  
GADGETS ON STANDBY

## Green fingers

When the weather starts to warm up again next year, step outside and consider planting a little herb garden or vegetable patch. The more produce you grow at home, the less waste you throw away.

## Turn off the heat

The simplest way to reduce your utility bill is to install a programmable thermostat to ensure your heating will shut off when the thermostat reaches the designated temperature.

## Stop draughts

If your budget won't allow for replacing older, inefficient windows, use sealant and weather-stripping around them to stop cold air from seeping in. Use draught-stoppers at the bottom of doors, too.

## Be thrifty

Rather than splashing out on new furniture, consider charity shops, antiques markets and websites such as Freecycle. Recycling an old treasure can save not only trees, but your bank balance, too.

## Let light in

Hold off switching lights on where you can, and enjoy natural daylight as long as possible! Plus, ensure all your bulbs are energy efficient and think about investing in a timer.

## Tech tips

Remember that even when you're not using electronic gadgets and they're plugged in, they're still using energy. Look out for standby saver kits; visit [nigelsecostore.com](http://nigelsecostore.com) for more details.

**Super sun**

Solar power is a clean and renewable source of energy. It can be an expensive option at first, but the government grants, incentives and tax breaks available to participants make it worth looking into.

**Reuse H<sub>2</sub>O**

Install a rainwater harvesting system to collect rainwater from your roof. The collected water can then be used for other purposes around the house, such as toilets and sprinkler systems.

**Heat up**

Properly installed and good-quality roof insulation can keep warm air in the house and reduce your heating costs massively, saving money and reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. Check yours is up to scratch.

**Down the drain**

Nearly everyone leaves the tap running while brushing teeth. This wastes six litres of water a minute per person! Stop money going down the drain by simply turning the tap off while you brush.

**GREEN TIPS**

Pick up these five habits to save energy and cash

**SAVE WATER**

When making tea or coffee, most of us fill the kettle up and, as a country, we're wasting around £68 million worth of energy a year, so fill up just to the level you need.

**COOK SPEEDY**

Pre-heating the oven when cooking makes sense. But don't turn it on too soon – it reaches the right temperature in 10 to 15 minutes.

**COOL RIGHT**

Fridges run more efficiently when set at the ideal temperature. If yours has a thermostat, set it to between 3°C and 5°C.

**WASH ECO**

Turn the taps off when washing dishes and instead of using running water, use a bowl.

**UPDATE GADGETS**

Your old appliances, such as washing machines, fridges and ovens could be wasting a lot of energy. Replace them with Energy Star-qualified products.

**Compost scraps**

Coffee grounds, fruit and veg peels and eggshells can all be recycled to produce compost. Keeping food scraps out of landfills is good for the environment, as it stops them building up methane gas.

**Keep cool**

Eighty to ninety per cent of the energy used when you run your washing machine comes from heating up the water. Try using the cold water or eco modes on your machine.



#### VINTAGE STYLE

'I scoured the internet to find a period-style radiator and roll-top bath within budget'

## MY ROOM...



**ABOUT ME** I'm Becky Evans-Freeman, 31, a blogger at [spiritedpuddlejumper.com](http://spiritedpuddlejumper.com). I live with my husband, Adam, and two children, Freddie, four, and Sasha, three, in a three-bedroom 1930s house in southeast London.

**MY CHALLENGE** Our old bathroom was really cramped and dated. The toilet was in a separate room, so we knocked through to create one cohesive space, blocking up the old windows and fitting a new window. We also needed to move the water tank to make space for a walk-in shower enclosure.

**MY WISH LIST** I knew I really wanted a roll-top bath but we had a limited budget. I searched high and low to find one online at the right price.



#### GREAT IDEA

'The wood-effect lino is fab - it was cheap as chips and requires less maintenance than real wood'

**TOTAL  
£1,300**

TURN OVER FOR  
MY SHOPPING  
LIST

## COLOUR CONSCIOUS

'I love grey and yellow together - I picked up some great accessories from House of Fraser and Bhs'

# 'Our bathroom has A LUXURY LOFT LOOK'

*Stylist at Home* Becky, 31, knocked through two old-fashioned rooms to create a stylish, practical space that the whole family can enjoy

**C**hanging the bathroom was our priority - it was hideous and hadn't been touched for about 50 years,' says Becky. 'There was an awful electric shower that made such a noise it used to frighten Freddie, who was a baby at the time.'

The space was cut in two - with a bath and sink in one room and a loo in the other, and it was so cramped I couldn't even kneel down on the floor for Freddie's bathtime.

## Starting point

The room was really dingy, with stained walls and dated tiles. We wanted to create a single space, so a fair amount of structural work was required. Our builders took down the partition, blocked up one of the original doorways and windows, then removed the water tank in the corner. Taking it out meant we were able to square up the room and make space for the walk-in shower that I really wanted.

Fortunately, we were able to keep the existing pipework - the loo, sink and bath are in pretty much the same place as before, which helped to keep costs down.

We wanted to create a relaxing space with a modern-vintage look. I was determined to include a roll-top bath and liked the idea of an old-fashioned radiator and big Edwardian sink, but wanted to pair these with some contemporary touches. I saw some great pictures of New York loft apartments on Pinterest with walk-in showers and subway tiles, and we spent ages deciding on the colour of the grout. I'm really pleased we went for the dark grey - it makes more of a statement.

## Hunting for bargains

The biggest challenge was sourcing fixtures and fittings - especially as I was pregnant with Sasha and had a toddler in tow! There was only a limited amount I could do in the day, so Adam and I spent many evenings >>

## STYLISH SHOWERING

'By moving the water tank, we created space for a walk-in shower. It makes me feel like I'm living in a boutique hotel'



## Stylists at Home



**TINA SAYS**  
‘A mixture of modern and traditional fixtures gives this bathroom a fresh look. Colourful towels and accessories add interest.’



### SHADES OF GREY

‘Subway tiles with grey grout give the smart New-York loft look I’d admired on Pinterest’

### STAR BUY

‘The window film is one of my favourite things. It was a bit fiddly but it’s definitely something you can do yourself’



See our boards at [pinterest.com/styleathomemag](#) for more inspiration for your bathroom revamp



**STYLE TIP**  
‘Search eBay for prints – these cost £5 each’

### BARGAIN HUNT

‘I sourced wood-effect lino on eBay for a fraction of the cost of a real wooden floor’

‘ROLL-TOP BATHS ON THE HIGH STREET WERE OUT OF MY PRICE RANGE. I TRACKED DOWN VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL VERSIONS ONLINE FOR HALF THE AMOUNT’

» trying to decide on the fixtures, and choosing tiles and paint colours.

Checking prices online and scouring discount stores definitely saved us a huge amount of money, and was much cheaper than handing over the whole project to a bathroom design firm. I originally started looking at roll-top baths on the high street but they were completely out of my price range. In the end, I tracked down a bathroom retailer online who sells virtually identical versions at half the amount.

### Design inspiration

I love the understated grey walls and wanted to introduce shots of colour with the framed butterfly pictures and bright yellow accessories – it’s a classic combination that works really well.

I’m a bit of a magpie when it comes to design – I’ll often pinch ideas. I first saw the pretty star-print window film on my friend’s kitchen door, and loved it. It can be fiddly to apply, but luckily my mum was on hand to help me – it was certainly worth the effort. The new bathroom has

transformed bathtime for the children

there’s space for me to wash them and I can get them out and into their pyjamas without having to leave the room. They’re also at an age where they’re really starting to enjoy using the walk-in shower, which is definitely my favourite feature here, too – every time I step into it, it makes me smile.’

### My shopping list

Traditional-style freestanding bath, £249.98; shower mixer, £38.75; Legend toilet, £99; heated towel rail, £119.95, all Compare The Bathroom. Basin, £169; basin taps, £59; wood-effect lino, £87, all eBay. Rigid Riser shower, £72, Tapstore. Walls painted in Manor House Gray Modern Emulsion, £42 per 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. White Metro tiles, £19.50 per sq m; Flexible grey grout, £39.99 for 10kg, both Topps Tiles. Window film, £100, Brume. Brights tumbler, £8; toilet brush, £20; soap dish, £6; soap dispenser, £10, all Bhs. Linea towels in Sunshine, from £8, House of Fraser.

# Get Becky's BATHROOM STYLE

Create a fresh look with these inspiring buys, starting from £2.50



## INSTANT UPDATE

### SOAP STAR

For super-stylish suds. Sunshine gloss soap dish, £2.50, Wilko



### ALL A-FLUTTER

Tap into the botanical trend. Butterfly prints, £44.95 for two, Rockett St George



### SMART COLOUR

Go grey. Travels in Colour Steel Parade emulsion, £21.99 per 2.5ltr, Dulux



### MIRROR IMAGE

Add a glamorous edge. Luella bevelled wall mirror, £195, Habitat



### CONVENIENTLY PLACED

Channel a US washroom vibe. Bathmat, £6.99, H&M



### STACK UP

Keep products in order. Three-tier bathroom caddy, £28, Kaleidoscope



### RUSTIC TOUCH

Stash away clutter. Farmstead willow and canvas trunks, from £9.99 each, Dunelm



### TRADITIONAL SHAPE

Get hooked on a classic. Solitude bath/shower mixer tap, £85.97, Bathroom Takeaway



### SUNNY DELIGHT

Start the day bright. Yellow Ultimate towel, from £3, Bhs

# Create a timeless BATHROOM

It's so easy to achieve a vintage-style look with our savvy ideas

**Y**our bathroom may not look like this, but with a few simple changes you can make a real difference. Get shopping and for less than £100 you can dress your suite with key items that will really hone a classic style. Take it further and invest in authentic sanitaryware – a high-level toilet (£329, Victoria Plum) will look fabulous – and make a real statement.

## On reflection

If you have the space, hang a large panelled mirror to fill the wall – it'll really open up the room. Or place three small mirrors side by side to recreate this window effect.

**Use white Scoop mirrors, from £7.99 each, The Range**

## Add colour

Wood panelling is typical of past times. Give it a new lease of life with a lick of paint. A strong shade will revive it – try blue or purple for a statement. Choose a quick-drying eggshell paint

## Stylists at Home



**SHARON SAYS**  
‘Look out for second-hand pieces you can revive with a splash of paint to give your vintage look unique style.’

## Bring it to life

Do a search on Google and you should be able to find a reclamation yard near you that sells old basins and baths for a classic update. You could pick up an authentic ceramic sink from around £100

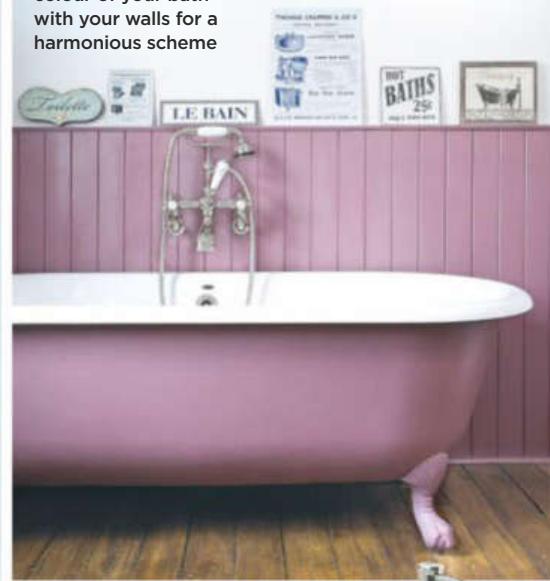


**Go authentic**

Originally found on the underground railway networks of New York and London, metro tiles are now a bathroom essential – especially if they have a vintage look. Go for gloss metro tiles, £15.50m sq, Tons of Tiles

**MATCH IT**

Coordinate the colour of your bath with your walls for a harmonious scheme



MAIN PHOTOGRAPH TIMEINCUKCONTENT.COM WORDS LIZZIE HUDSON

**PAST TIMES**

Metal sign, £4.95, Dotcomgiftshop

**SMART CERAMICS**

Tumbler, £10; dispenser, £15; both Amara

**Vintage bathroom  
GET THE LOOK**

Embrace an era gone by with our pick of buys under £100!

**SOFTLY DOES IT**

Flannel, £3.50; hand towel, £10; bath sheet, £30; Christy



**GET WINGS**  
Bird loo roll holder, £13.95, Melody Maison

**SWEET SCENTED**  
Organic Argan Oil soaps, £10 for four, French Soaps

**TOTAL  
£97**



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## Festive ideas

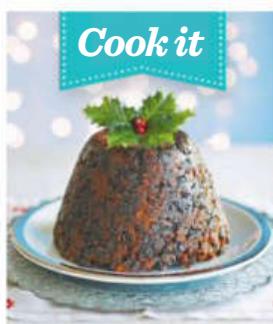
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DECEMBER ISSUE ON SALE 28 OCTOBER



**Kitchen special**

# Give your kitchen a STYLISH UPDATE

It's the heart of your home, so show your kitchen some love  
– from a total makeover to new appliances, we're here to inspire »

Short on space?  
Choose smart wall  
shelves to free up  
your worksurface

**MODERN CLASSICS**

Warm up a neutral  
scheme with  
wooden and  
copper-toned  
accessories



# 'The kitchen is now THE HEART OF OUR HOME'

*Stylist at Home* Nicola, 44, put together a contemporary open-plan kitchen with a vintage twist to match her 1920s home

## MY ROOM...



**ABOUT ME** I'm Nicola Anderson and I'm a teacher. I live in a five-bedroom 1920s house in the seaside village of Donaghadee, County Down, with my husband, Ray, 46, a quantity surveyor, and our daughters, Jessica, 18, Olivia, 15, and Amy, 12.

**MY CHALLENGE** When the house came on the market, we were really pleased as we needed more space for us and the girls. However, the kitchen was tiny, designed in the days when it was purely the room where food was prepared, not where family and friends congregate.

**MY WISH LIST** I wanted to create a practical, family space without compromising the period feel of this lovely property. Time is precious in a busy family, so I wanted the kitchen to be somewhere where we could all be together, and where Ray and the girls could relax while I cook.



### MIX UP

'I like the practicality of modern kitchen units, but I also wanted the kitchen to be appropriate for the period of the house, so I've added lots of vintage accessories'

**STYLE TIP**

'Create an eclectic look by hanging a quirky print in a modern space'



**TOTAL  
£6,700**  
**TURN OVER FOR  
MY SHOPPING  
LIST**

**SPACIOUS FEEL**

'Being able to see the floor beneath the units really maximises the sense of space in our kitchen'

**A**s a little girl, I used to love visiting our friends who lived in this house – but I never dreamt I'd live here myself. It's an amazing coincidence,' says Nicola. 'I liked the fact that, as a double-fronted property with Virginia creeper growing over the walls, it looked like the houses you draw as a child!

It had stacks of room for us all but the kitchen was tiny and dated, much smaller than the one in the house we'd just left. However, with a large garden, there was plenty of room to extend and create the open-plan family area I wanted.

**Making plans**

We decided to take the extension across the width of the house, then knock the original kitchen into that, to create an L-shaped room. As a quantity surveyor, Ray knew what was required in terms of planning, and an architect friend was able to lend his expertise on layout.

Some people may think that as a home-economics teacher, cooking would be a bit of a busman's holiday for me, but I really enjoy it. I love being in the kitchen, so, naturally, I have always liked the idea of having lots of space where the family can be together. After all, the best parties end up in the kitchen! Obviously, I wanted a practical space, but not one that looked too functional; it still had to blend in with >>



Get clicking and go to [housetohome.co.uk/styleathome](http://housetohome.co.uk/styleathome) for more inspiring house tours.



#### ON THE SHELF

'This is a favourite corner of mine. Any little bits and pieces I pick up end up here'

#### CHALK IT UP

'This chalkboard fits with my vintage theme, and it's helpful, too'

#### STYLE TIP

'Transform your furniture with a coat of paint'



**'I PAINTED THE TROLLEY IN A SOFT-GREY CHALK PAINT FOR A CONTEMPORARY LOOK THAT MATCHES THE STAINLESS-STEEL APPLIANCES'**

» our home, which has kept so many of its original 1920s features. Of course, budget was a challenge, too!

#### Getting down to it

Friends recommended our builder, which was reassuring, and we project-managed the work ourselves – thankfully, there were no major hitches.

The extension went up first, but the real inconvenience came when the builders were ready to knock through into the kitchen. For the next couple of weeks, it was takeaways and whatever we could rustle up with a toaster and microwave.

The units I'd decided on were from Ikea – but at that stage, in 2003, we didn't have an Ikea in Ireland, so we hired

a van and drove to Glasgow on a shopping expedition. We turned it into a long weekend away, the cost of which was more than compensated for by the savings we made!

The freestanding units have an urban feel to them, which seems at odds with our period home, but they're extremely practical and can even be moved about if we fancy a change. To soften the look, I went for accessories with a vintage twist and pops of retro colours popular in the 1950s.

After a couple of weeks in chaos, any kitchen would have been great, but ending up with this one was a real treat! We live in this part of the house most of the time and it's been a great boon to our lifestyle.'

#### Stylists at Home



##### TARA SAYS

'Nicola has really transformed her kitchen, mixing modern units with shabby chic accessories. Redesigning the layout of her kitchen makes it more practical to use.'

#### My shopping list

Kitchen **units**, £4,000, Ikea. For similar **base units**, try The Freestanding Kitchen Company. For similar **wall units**, try Sonoma, £199 each, Marks & Spencer. For a similar **range cooker**, try Hotpoint EG902GXS, £1,265.98; for a similar **splashback**, try Bertazzoni 901051 with utensil bar, £199.97, both Appliances Direct. For a similar **cooker hood**, try Beko HB60PX, £179, John Lewis. For a similar **microwave**, try Sharp R82STMA, £129.99, The Co-Operative Electrical. For a similar **sink**, try Pyramis two-bowl sink and drainer, £194.99, B&Q. For a similar **tap**, try Ringskar, £80; Bjursta **table**, £190; Erland **chairs**, £40 each; Bekvam kitchen **trolley**, £35, all Ikea. Grey slate **tiles**, £79.99 per sq m; feature wall painted in Dove Grey Soft Sheen **emulsion**, £18.99 per 2.5ltr, all Homebase. Table and trolley painted in Paris Grey **chalk paint**, from £6.45 for 100ml, Annie Sloan. You Can Go Your Own Way **picture**, £18, Next. Perpetual **calendar**, £50, Doris & Jeannie. **Chalkboard**, £20, TK Maxx. Live Well **wall sign**, £10, Joe Browns

# Get Nicola's KITCHEN LOOK

Add colour, prints and motivational messages for a fun scheme



**COLOUR BLOCK**  
Kick back with a cuppa. Espresso cup, £4.95, Dotcomgiftshop



**SAY IT WITH WORDS**  
The perfect pick-me-up. Follow Your Dreams sign, £5, The Contemporary Home



**DAY TO DAY**  
Keep track of the date. Desk calendar, £14.95, Live Laugh Love



**SHARP ADDITION**  
Make cooking easy. Andlig four-piece knife set, £10.99, Ikea



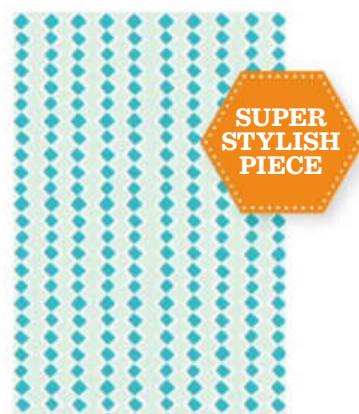
**CLEARLY USEFUL**  
Great for pasta and rice.  
Essentials storage jars, from £6, BHS



**MAKE A NOTE**  
Keep on top of your to-do list.  
Large chalkboard, £15, Wilko



**EXTRA SURFACE**  
Store your veg. Catalan one-drawer console table, £349.99, WorldStores



**TREND SETTER**  
Add a colour injection.  
Diamonds tea towel, £13, In-Spaces



**STYLISH STORAGE**  
Update essentials. Hand-painted ceramic jar, £24 set of three, Next

# 'Buying online



## RETRO APPEAL

'The bold pattern on the blinds, and even the new handles on the units, are typical of the mid-century look Dan and I both love'

## MY ROOM...



**ABOUT ME** I'm Jan Ford, 43, and I live with my husband Dan and our eight-year-old daughter Molly in our five-bedroom house in Worcestershire.

**MY CHALLENGE** I detested the flooring and couldn't wait to get rid of it: awful tiles in the kitchen and tile-effect lino in the utility area. Plus, it was damp underneath.

**MY WISH LIST** As well as a new floor, we'd fallen for some designer units in Wren Kitchens, but they were too pricey for us. We both love the distinctive character of retro look, so we went online to track down the ideas and colour scheme. We also wanted a revamped utility area, with bifolding doors out onto the garden.



# SAVED US MONEY'



Internet savvy

*Stylist at Home, Jan, 43, reproduced her dream kitchen on the web – and on budget*

**W**hen it comes to home renovations, we're very particular about what we want, and so will spend time tracking it down,' says Jan. 'We like to shop around, find what we like at a fraction of the listed price and keep within our budget.

We saw a Linda Barker kitchen that we really liked, but it cost around £10,000, and was over our budget. The kitchen units we'd inherited were perfectly good and the original configuration suited us, so there was actually no point in paying good money to have them ripped out. Instead, we just bought new doors for them, and splashed out on the Linda Barker handles we'd originally seen.

## Thinking ahead

Our plan was to complete the kitchen, then move on to the utility area – we needed to be able to use the kitchen while work was ongoing. The first job was to replace the horrible floor, but the utility room floor would have to wait until the installation of the bi-fold doors was finished.

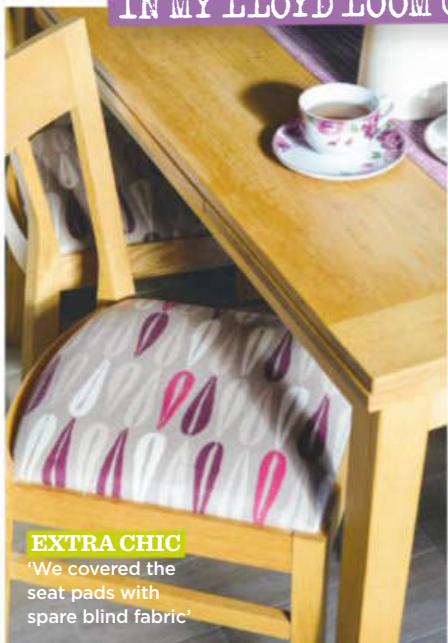
Having sourced new MDF doors for the units, we had them sprayed in our choice of grey at a local car garage. This rather unusual method of painting them came about in a roundabout way. We'd had a little knock in our car and, through a friend's recommendation, we found this chap who did a really nice re-spray. Afterwards, we asked him if he'd consider spraying furniture and he said yes! With the doors sprayed and fitted, we moved on to the worktops and tiling.

## Major challenge

The worst part of the renovation was definitely having the bi-fold doors fitted. The original back door was located on the side wall, and there was a small window overlooking the garden. To accommodate the bi-fold doors, we had to demolish the entire back wall and I wasn't looking forward to having a gaping hole there. It turned out to be a pretty lengthy and messy job, but once the new doors were in, they made a huge difference in terms of >>



‘DESPITE IT BEING A WORKING ROOM, I LOVE TO SIT IN THE UTILITY AREA, RELAXING IN MY LLOYD LOOM CHAIR WITH A COFFEE’



#### EXTRA CHIC

‘We covered the seat pads with spare blind fabric’

Like us on [facebook.com/styleathomemag](https://www.facebook.com/styleathomemag) and see our latest videos, house tours and decorating tips.

#### HIDDEN DEPTHS

‘All the white goods are concealed behind purpose-built units. The doors are MDF, finished off with little dowelling handles’

## Stylists at Home



#### AIMIE SAYS

‘Bi-folding doors allow light to fill the room and link the kitchen and garden, giving a feel of continuity. This makes it perfect for entertaining in the summer.’

#### LIGHT GIVER

‘Dan made these as a present, from oak off-cuts, flex, bulbs and new Kilner jars’



## My shopping list

Infinity **bi-fold doors**, £2,400, Bi-fold Door Solutions. Pre-painted unit **doors**, from £32 each, Kitchen Door Workshop. Mia oak **handles**, £16 each, Linda Barker at Wren Kitchens. **Worktop**, £50 per sq m, Woodworktops. Coco Mate **tiles**, £19.95 per sq m, Metro range by Urban Chic, Walls and Floors. Elk Antler **wall paint**, £25 for 2.5ltr; Kidney Bean **utility unit paint**, £25 for 2.5ltr, both Valspar range, B&Q. **Kitchen unit paint**, £50 from spray-paint garage. **Flooring**, £16 per sq m; blind and chairs in Roma Corolla Cerise **fabric**, £50 per sq m; Lloyd Loom **chair**, £150; Original 1960s **freestanding unit**, £110; Deante **sink**, £104, all eBay. Bristan Almond Monoblock mixer **tap** with pull-out spray, £72.49, Supreme Plumb. **Table**, £400, Habitat. **Kitchen chairs**, £45 each; **glass storage jar unit**, £20, all Ikea. **Jars** (for lights), £2.50 each, Kilner. Rattan **washing baskets**, £4 each, car-boot sale.

# Get Jan's KITCHEN LOOK

Channel a distinctive retro feel with these lookalike buys



#### GET IT RIGHT

Mix it up. Country measuring jug, £18, John Lewis



#### SWITCHED ON

Go for an urban look. Grey industrial pendant, £67, Barker & Stonehouse



#### ON BOARD

Add warm elements. Acacia bread board, £35, House of Fraser



#### SMART CHOICE

Protect your clothes. Jasper Conran apron, £16, Debenhams



#### CLOCK ON

Stay on track with timings. Grandfather clock, £89, Furniture Village



#### CURVE APPEAL

Stop for a cuppa. Morphy Richards Accents Pyramid kettle, £49, Very.co.uk



#### STYLISH WICKER

Fill with bread. Somerton willow rectangular basket, £42, Neptune



#### FLORAL TRIBUTE

Serve in style. Domestic by Maser Mona dinnerware, £48.99 for a 12-piece set, Wayfair



#### SQUARE DEAL

Fall for this artistic buy. Misty Moors placemats, £4.99 for four, Dunelm

**CHALK IT UP**  
Rust-oleum chalkboard paint, £11.99 for 750ml, Homebase



# Fab kitchens, 10 WAYS

Give your space a new look with small changes that make a big difference

Kitchens are the heart of the home – they're where you cook, chat and spend a fair chunk of your time, so they should definitely look good, too. If you haven't got the time and budget for a complete kitchen makeover, but you'd love something shiny and fresh, it's actually much easier than you think to make a kitchen look and feel like new.

From tile tattoos and fancy handles to chalkboard walls and colourful appliances, we've got the quickest and easiest tricks so you can transform your kitchen from drab to fab, without breaking the bank.

**1 Crazy for crockery**  
There's nothing more pleasing to the keen cook's eye than being surrounded by beautiful kitchen accessories, especially pretty crockery. Carefully select a range of worktop-friendly bowls, plates and chopping boards and display them on exposed shelving and show off at your dinner parties.

**EASTERN FLAVOUR**  
Bamboo bowls, from £6, Oliver Bonas



**2 Dramatic backdrop**  
Chalkboard walls are getting more and more popular and it's easy to see why – they're practical, especially if you have little ones, they look good and they're simple enough to recreate. All you need is paint and a paintbrush!

**3 Fall for freestanding furniture**  
Industrial schemes are hot news in kitchens throughout the country, so invest in this trendy look with factory-style freestanding furniture. You'll benefit from extra storage without having to commit to a whole new kitchen!



**GO RETRO**  
Bright primary colours, a checked tablecloth and metro tiles create a 1950s diner feel

In a neutral kitchen, add pops of bright colour to bring the room to life

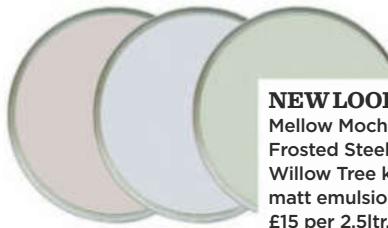


**6 Pick pastel shades**  
Pastel hues are on trend, so where better to incorporate the look than in the kitchen? Whether you opt for sky blue tiles, pink worktops or a yellow splashback, keep the look clean with a white background and modern appliances.

BY KEEPING THE BACKGROUND NEUTRAL, YOU CAN PLAY WITH VARIOUS TEXTURES AND STYLES

**4 Get a grip**  
Changing your kitchen cupboard handles is a simple job that even the least practical of folk can manage, and you'll be surprised at just how different it'll make your kitchen feel.

**5 Fresh lick of paint**  
Put aside a Saturday afternoon and repaint your kitchen walls in whatever colour you fancy! There's a fantastic range of kitchen-friendly, grease-resistant paints available on the high street, so pick up the roller and get painting, pronto!



**NEW LOOK**  
Mellow Mocha,  
Frosted Steel and  
Willow Tree kitchen  
matt emulsion paint,  
£15 per 2.5ltr, Wilko

## KITCHEN UPDATES



**8 Jazz up your tiles**  
Although white tiles are timeless and conveniently suit most schemes, they can end up looking a bit lacklustre. Transform them in minutes with bright tile tattoos for a fresh new look without spending a fortune. Plus, you can simply remove them when you want a change!



**REALLY RESTFUL**  
Leon chairs, £25,  
Tesco Direct

**9 Seated style**  
You may not think something as commonplace as a chair can have such an impact on the look and feel of your kitchen, but you'd be wise to reconsider! Cheery bright chairs in a variety of shades will make your table area the focal point and encourage family dinners together.

**7 Take it to the floor**  
It's important to give your kitchen – and whole home for that matter – a good base to work from. Investing just a little time and budget on a funky new floor will seriously transform your whole kitchen space, large or small.



**FLOOR SHOW**  
Parthian tiles,  
£65.78 per sq  
m, Topps Tiles

**10 Modern touch**  
Nothing will make a kitchen look more tired and dated than a rusty old tap. Very affordable and easy to change, a new tap will instantly add sparkle and shine to your sink.



**NEW FLOW**  
Cooke & Lewis  
Rubicon chrome-effect monobloc tap, £147, B&Q

For more inspiration and to shop for kitchen accessories, visit [theroomedit.com](http://theroomedit.com)



### Flexible friend

A 'fill and forget' model, this low-maintenance dishwasher has a self-cleaning filter to keep blockages at bay while the flood-protection feature shuts off the water if there is a problem and pumps out what's remaining so you won't come home to a wet floor.

**GV63214 Integrated dishwasher, £359.99, Gorenje**



### Squeaky clean

This clever machine has a drying cycle, so you can put spotless glassware away straight from the machine. Plus, its sensors detect how dirty your dishes are and adapt the jets to suit.

**ADP 900 IX PowerDry dishwasher, £599.99, Whirlpool**

# Clean up with a new DISHWASHER

Cater for a crowd with one of the latest mess-busting models for less than £700

**I**t's time to make room in your kitchen for a dishwasher. Not only do most of the latest models use less water and energy than washing-up by hand, they're also bursting with smart features to make life that little bit easier. Whether you go for freestanding or integrated for a sleeker finish, full-sized models at 60cm wide are best for a busy household. And, if you've an open-plan space, look out for designs with noise levels as low as 39dB.

### Double duty

If you need your dishwasher to be an everyday workhorse, you'll love this A+++-rated beauty. It can be split into two zones so you can wash pans and glasses at the same time with perfect results.

**Servis DN61039SS dishwasher in stainless steel, £378.99, Argos**



### Big capacity

Catering for a crowd? This machine will clean up to 16 place settings in one go, while the height-adjustable upper basket and high-sided lower basket can be switched from holding plates to pots and pans.

**BDIF616 integrated dishwasher, £499, Baumatic**

**Vintage wonder**

Great for adding a pop of colour to your kitchen, this stylish dishwasher will squeeze in 12 place settings, has six programs, plus a handy delay start button to make the most of lower energy tariffs.

**Swan Retro dishwasher, £433, Appliances Online**



FULL-SIZED MODELS CAN HOLD BETWEEN 12 AND 16 PLACE SETTINGS – PERFECT FOR BUSY FAMILIES AND FOR WHEN YOU'RE ENTERTAINING

**Super speedy**

Hate the wait? The quick wash on this smart model will power through a full load of dishes in as little as 30 minutes and the timer countdown lets you know exactly when they'll be done.

**DSFN6839W dishwasher, £310, Beko**



FAST WASH

**Super stylish**

Wash your dishes while you sleep with this machine's nifty one to nine hour delay timer option. Plus with a half-load washing setting you don't need to wait till it's full.

**Smeg D16FABP2 60cm retro-style integrated dishwasher, £689, John Lewis**



TOP MONEY SAVER

**Bargain buy**

This budget-friendly A++ energy-rated model cleans tall items up to 53cm and has a clog-busting micromesh filter to keep your dishwasher working perfectly.

**DFP 58T94A integrated dishwasher, £299, Indesit**

**Design details**

This smart freestanding dishwasher could be mistaken for an integrated model thanks to its concealed controls and chunky pull handle. It also includes internal LED lighting so you can easily see what you're loading and unloading.

**WF610BL freestanding dishwasher, £389, CDA**

**ESSENTIAL FEATURES**

What to look out for before you buy

**ANTI-FLOOD PROTECTION**

Should the hose that fills the dishwasher spill or leak, this feature prevents any potential flooding.

**USEFUL PROGRAMS**

Handy settings include economy and eco washes, intensive washes for stubborn dirt, and delicate for glassware, plus half load.

**DELAY START**

Set your machine to wash at night using economy electricity and to avoid disturbing anyone.

**ADJUSTABLE PRONGS AND RACKS**

These variable features will help you stack your dishwasher more easily, whatever the load.

**SENSOR WASH**

This clever feature detects how dirty the load is and adapts the temperature and wash duration, saving on water, energy and time.



**THIS MONTH'S Loveit**

Pretty up your kitchen-diner with some new colour-coordinated accessories. The grey-blue table blends seamlessly with the crockery and fabrics, while an azure pendant pulls the scheme together. Dinner is served!

**Stylists at Home**

**TINA SAYS**

'I love this rustic kitchen, it creates a real sense of calm. Bench seating is great for saving space as you can easily hide it away under the table.'

Add a striped cushion to a wooden bench for a burst of colour

**HEAT IT UP**  
Cook in style  
with Whirlpool's  
Absolute oven  
and microwave



**SLEEK LOOK**  
For a streamlined  
effect, install  
this chic hob



**WIN!**  
**£2,000**  
**OF WHIRLPOOL  
APPLIANCES**

**WASH UP**  
Update your  
home with the  
freestanding  
PowerDry  
dishwasher



# WIN! a set of sleek kitchen appliances

Enter now for a chance to win an oven, dishwasher and more

**T**he kitchen is at the heart of a busy household, so it's important to ensure it's a fully functioning, efficient space - and sleek appliances are key.

To help make your kitchen more user-friendly, *Style at Home* has teamed up with Whirlpool to give one lucky reader a state-of-the-art set of appliances, including a built-in oven,

microwave, hob and free-standing dishwasher, worth a total of £2,000.

## All in the detail

The four appliances are finished in Whirlpool's Absolute design, with a sleek exterior and easy-to-use controls. They also feature Whirlpool's pioneering 6th Sense technology, guaranteeing perfect and effortless results every time. The oven

requires no pre-heating, the microwave offers different cooking options with just one touch, and the induction hob can detect the size of a pan and heat up quickly. Meanwhile, the dishwasher can wash and dry a load in just one hour - so you'll have less work to do!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
check out the Whirlpool collection  
at [whirlpool.co.uk](http://whirlpool.co.uk)

**TERMS & CONDITIONS** One winner will receive a set of appliances, worth £2,000. No cash alternative. Competition open to UK mainland entrants only. The winners will be contacted directly to arrange delivery to winner's address only. Removal of old appliances and installation of new ones not included. Whirlpool is not responsible for any kitchen alterations should prizes not fit. The promoter is *Style at Home*. Prizes supplied by Whirlpool. Employees cannot enter. The prize is subject to availability. Service provider is Spoke 0333 202 3390. \*When you enter by text you may get SMS marketing messages from Time Inc. (UK) Ltd and *Style at Home*. If you don't want to, end text with NO INFO. Lines open at 00.01am on 23 September 2015 and close at midnight on 4 November 2015. See page 129 for full terms and conditions.

## 4 ways to enter

**PHONE** Call 0904 160 0650 and leave your answer, name, address and phone number. Calls cost £1.45 plus your telephone company's network access charge.

**TEXT** SAHCOMP1 followed by a space and your answer, then your name, house number and postcode to 87088\*. Texts cost £1.50 per entry plus your network charges.

**POST** Fill in the coupon and send to Whirlpool/SAH November competition, PO Box 502, Leicester LE94 0AB.

**ONLINE** Visit [housetohome.co.uk/competitions](http://housetohome.co.uk/competitions).

Phone lines open on 23 September 2015 and close at midnight on 4 November 2015. Postal entries must arrive by 9 November 2015. SP: Spoke Ltd 0333 202 3390.



## ENTRY FORM

Send to Whirlpool/SAH November competition,  
PO Box 502, Leicester LE94 0AB

**QUESTION** What's Whirlpool's pioneering new technology called?

- A)** 2nd Sense **B)** 6th Sense **C)** 7th Sense

**ANSWER** .....

Mrs/Ms/Miss/Mr/Title ..... First name ..... Surname .....

Address (BLOCK CAPITALS) .....

..... Postcode .....

Daytime phone number ..... Home phone number .....

Email address ..... Year of birth .....

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**Style**atHome

# Serve up a special WINTRY DELIGHT

Sprinkle a little seasonal magic on to your dining table with these cool finds in shimmering shades from Sainsbury's newest range

**N**ow the days are getting chillier, thoughts turn to the upcoming winter months. To weave an enchanting magical spell in your home, Sainsbury's new Winter's Tale collection has all the elements you need.

## Fairy-tale setting

Combining sparkling silver and glass with mottled, frosty finishes and an icy palette of white and grey, the nature-inspired range can be mixed and matched to create a stunning winter wonderland scene. So transform your dining table into a glam spot with these gorgeous sparkly buys.

Cluster cones, candles and tealights for a welcoming glow



**COOL METALLICS**  
Set the scene for a magical meal by sticking to a sophisticated ice-cool palette

**ADD LIGHT**

White wash  
large wreath,  
£25

**GREAT PRICE****COSY UP**

Winter Wishes  
cushion, £20

**GLAM TOUCH**

Lustre dinner  
plate, £4

**Stylists  
at Home****SARAH SAYS**

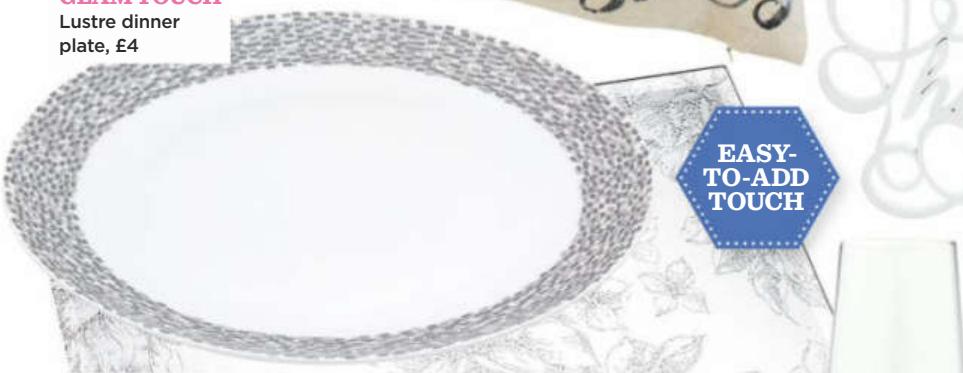
'The neutral colour palette of these cool buys makes them easy to work into your existing decor. I love the silver fade glasses they look fab!'

**SERVE  
IN STYLE**

Grey Sketch  
Floral 12-piece  
dinner set, £35

**PERFECTLY PLACED**

Sketched floral mirrored  
place mat, £10 for two

**EASY-  
TO-ADD  
TOUCH****SIGN UP**

Happily Ever After  
washed-wood sign, £15

**SWEET SCENT**

Winter Wishes  
diffuser, £10

**DREAMY DESSERT**

Vintage dessert  
dish, £3.50

**SNOW TIME**

Winter Trees  
mug, £2.50

**COOL SIP**

Silver Fade  
Champagne  
flute and  
martini glass,  
£4 each

**ESSENTIAL INFO**

How to get a fab new  
look for your home

**BE INSPIRED**

by Sainsbury's great-value homeware  
and accessories in store and check  
out its other stunning ranges.

**TAKE A LOOK**

online at [sainsburyshome.co.uk](http://sainsburyshome.co.uk) to  
find your nearest store or for more  
information. This homeware range  
is available at selected Sainsbury's  
stores from 25 October 2015.

**Sainsbury's**

4 million  
windows covered



fast free  
sample service



3 year  
guarantee



premium warm copper venetian blind



## MADE TO MEASURE, MADE SIMPLE

It's so easy to make your home feel loved; let us show you how. Come and choose from over 5,000 made to measure blinds and curtains, in every style imaginable. Plus we've got free samples, super fast delivery and a three-year guarantee to put your mind at ease.

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# Cook at Home

INSIDE EVERYDAY MEALS  
MADE EASY

BE A HERO IN THE KITCHEN WITH OUR OH-SO-TASTY RECIPES

30+  
DELICIOUS  
RECIPES



RECIPE & PHOTOGRAPH TIMEINCUKCONTENT.COM, ESSENTIALS, WOMAN



p108 BONFIRE  
NIGHT TREATS



p114 BAKES WITH  
A BANG!

**p111**  
**QUICK MEALS**

Check out our delicious dinners  
– all take 50 minutes or less

# Tuck into a BONFIRE FEAST

Don your woolly mittens, gather friends and enjoy these hearty treats – it'll be a party with a bang!



## PUFF PASTRY PIZZAS

**TAKES 25MIN SERVES 6**

- ★ 350g pack ready-rolled puff pastry
- ★ 6tbsp basil pesto ★ 230g jar marinated peppers, drained and roughly sliced ★ 200g buffalo mozzarella, torn ★ 100g sunblushed tomatoes ★ Handful fresh basil leaves

**1** Preheat oven to 220°C/Gas 7. Unroll the pastry onto a non-stick baking tray, trim the edges and divide into six equal-sized squares.

**2** Score a border and spread 1tbsp pesto over each square, leaving a border, then layer up with the pepper, mozzarella and sunblushed tomatoes.

**3** Season and bake for 20min until the pastry has puffed up and turned golden brown and the mozzarella is oozing. Scatter the fresh basil over it and serve.

## SAUSAGE & VEG GARLIC BREAD BAKE

**TAKES 50MIN SERVES 6**

Preheat oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Heat 1tbsp oil in a pan and brown **12 sausages**. In a large casserole, heat 2tbsp oil, slice and fry **1 aubergine, 3 courgettes** and **2 red onions** until golden. Add the sausages, **2 x 400g tins chopped tomatoes** and **4tbsp chopped fresh oregano**, season and bring to the boil. Bake for 30 min until bubbling. Top with **135g pack garlic bread slices**. Cook for 10 min more.



Sign up to our fab free newsletter for bonus recipes, [housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist](http://housetohome.co.uk/thehomestylist)

HEARTY SIDES



## BAKED SWEET POTATOES & BEANS

**TAKES 1HR SERVES 6**

- ★ 6 sweet potatoes ★ FOR THE BEANS 200g pack smoked bacon lardons ★ 1 onion, chopped
- ★ 2tbsp smoked paprika ★ 300g jar barbecue sauce ★ 400g tinned tomatoes ★ 410g tin haricot beans
- ★ 410g tin black-eyed beans

**1** Preheat oven to 200°C/Gas 6. Wash the sweet potatoes, put on a baking tray, sprinkle with salt and bake for 1hr. Or double-wrap in foil and put at the base of the bonfire until cooked.

**2** Fry the bacon in a large pan for 3min, add the onion and paprika and fry for another 3min. Add the barbecue sauce, tomatoes and beans, season and bring to the boil. Cover and gently simmer for 20 min.



## TOFFEE APPLES

**TAKES 15MIN + SETTING SERVES 6**

Insert lolly stick into 6 apples. Melt 550g caster sugar, 50g butter, 2tbsp golden syrup and 2tbsp white wine vinegar with 50ml water in a heavy-based saucepan over a low heat until the sugar dissolves. Bring to the boil, but don't stir. The mixture will start to darken to a golden brown around the edges of the pan after 8-10min. Remove from the heat, dip in the apples and roll in 100g toasted, flaked hazelnuts. If the mixture begins to harden, return the pan to the heat to soften. Leave the apples on a baking tray lined with greaseproof paper to set.

**MAKE INDULGENT HOT CHOCOLATE FOR TWO BY HEATING 75G CUBED DARK CHOCOLATE, 400ML MILK AND 1TSP SUGAR UNTIL MELTED**

## FIREWORK CHOCOLATE BROWNIES

**TAKES 50MIN SERVES 10**

- ★ 250g unsalted butter
- ★ 200g plain chocolate
- ★ 4 eggs ★ 300g caster sugar ★ 175g plain flour
- ★ 100g marshmallows, chopped ★ 100g Daim bar, broken into pieces ★ 100g Crunchie bar, roughly chopped

**1** Preheat the oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Grease and line a shallow baking tin with baking paper. In a heavy-based saucepan, melt the butter and plain chocolate together over a low heat, stirring, allow to cool.

**2** In a separate bowl, beat together the eggs and sugar, then stir into the melted chocolate. Sift in the flour then mix in the marshmallow and Daim and Crunchie pieces.

**3** Transfer the mixture to the lined tin and bake for 25-30min until the surface is pale and speckled and the inside is still gooey.

**4** Allow to cool in the tin, then turn out and cut into squares to serve.



SWEET TREATS

PHOTOGRAPHS TIMEINCUKCONTENT.COM, ESSENTIALS

# Take a pack of... CHEESE



Turn a store cupboard staple into a delicious family meal with our ideas

## MAC 'N' CHEESE

**TAKES 20 MINS SERVES 4**

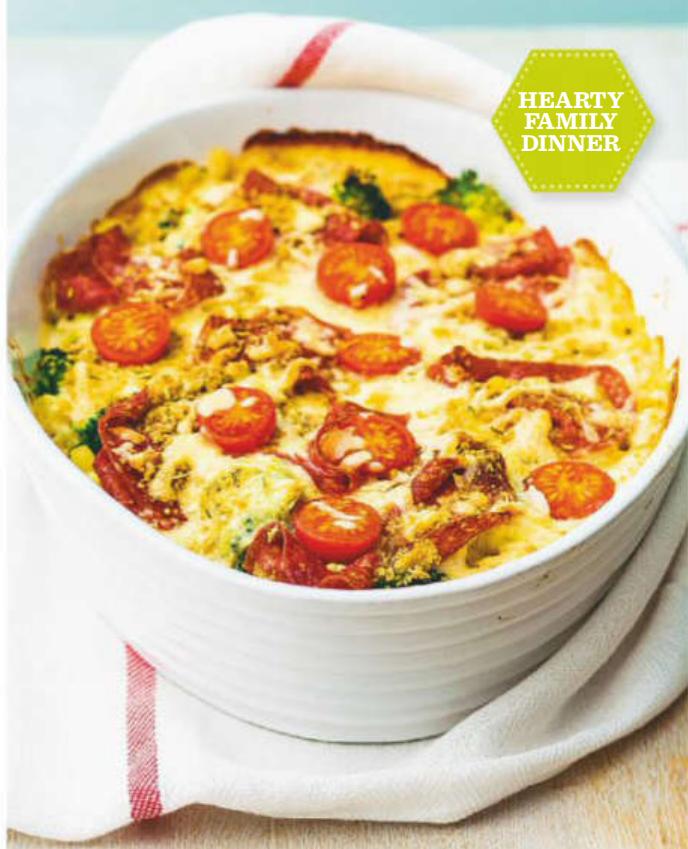
Cook 250g macaroni to pack instructions. Add 1 sliced leek and 300g broccoli for the last 5 min. Drain and reserve 150ml water. Put 350ml milk in a jug, whisk in 30g plain flour and microwave for a few min until thick. Whisk in a little water to slacken the sauce if needed. Stir in 1tsp mustard and 40g grated mature Cheddar. Mix the sauce with pasta and veg. Pour into an ovenproof dish. Top with 5 halved cherry tomatoes, 8 slices of salami, 80g grated Cheddar and 1tbsp grated Parmesan. Grill until golden.



## PEPPADEW FILO TART

**TAKES 40 MINS SERVES 6**

\* 1 onion, sliced \* 2tsp olive oil \* 4 sheets fresh filo pastry \* 2 eggs \* 300ml crème fraîche \* 150g mature Cheddar, grated \* 2tbsp olive oil \* 170g cheese-stuffed Peppadew peppers (from the deli counter) \* Small bag watercress



1 Preheat oven to 200°C/Gas 6 and put in a baking tray to heat up. Gently fry the onion in the oil for about 5 mins, or until softened.

2 Meanwhile, line a 10in tart tin with the filo pastry, brushing with oil between each layer, until you have four layers. In a bowl, beat the cooked onions, eggs, crème fraîche and cheese then season. Pour the egg into the tart and push in the peppers.

3 Bake the tart for 30 min on the hot baking tray until cooked through and golden. Serve with watercress.

## TRY THE FINEST CHEDDAR AND CARAMELISED ONION QUICHE, £3 (400G), TESCO

## CROQUE MONSIEUR

**TAKES 20 MINS SERVES 4**

In a saucepan over a low heat on the hob, melt 50g butter. Add 50g plain flour and stir with a wooden spoon to make a roux. Gradually whisk in 300ml milk and heat through, stirring until thickened. Lay 8 slices bread on a baking tray. Place some sauce on each slice, then top half the slices with a piece of ham and the others with a slice of hard cheese. Bake at 200°C/Gas 6 for 10 min. Layer up the ham and cheese slices to serve.



## SHEPHERD'S PIE

**TAKES 1HR SERVES 4**

\* 1tbsp olive oil \* 1 onion, diced \* 500g lamb mince \* 2 carrots, diced \* 4tbsp thyme, snipped \* 1tbsp plain flour \* 2tbsp tomato purée \* 1tbsp Worcestershire sauce \* 250ml lamb stock \* 1kg sweet potato mash \* 200g peas \* 50g mature Cheddar, grated

1 Heat the oil in a pan and fry the onion for 5 min until soft. Stir through the lamb and cook for 10 min.

2 Season and add the carrots, thyme, flour, sauces and stock. Simmer for 25 min. Stir occasionally.

3 Preheat oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Heat through 1kg sweet potato mash.

4 Stir the peas into mince, divide between 4 mini pie dishes. Top with the mash and Cheddar. Bake for 20 min until golden.





FRESH 'N' SAUCY  
PRAWN NOODLES



POTATO ROSTI WITH  
BACON, EGG & SPINACH



## QUICK & EASY *meals*

Cook up a delicious dinner in less than 50 mins!



PESTO CHICKEN  
& ROASTIES



TOMATO & BASIL  
LASAGNE

## POTATO ROSTI WITH BACON, EGG & SPINACH

TAKES 50 MINS SERVES 4

- \* 600g large potatoes
- \* 3tbsp vegetable oil
- \* 200g thick back or streaky bacon
- \* 200g frozen peas
- \* 100g baby spinach
- \* 4 eggs

**1** Cook the potatoes in boiling, salted water for 10 mins, until they're becoming tender. Drain and cool under cold running water.

**2** Preheat the oven to 200°C/Gas 6 and grease a baking tray. Peel away the potato skins, then coarsely grate each potato directly onto the tray to form mounds, season and drizzle with 2tbsp oil. Bake for 15 mins, add bacon to tray, then cook for 15 mins



ONLY  
50  
MINS

until the potato rosti and bacon are golden.

**3** Heat 1tbsp oil in a pan, fry the peas for 5 mins, add the spinach and cook for 2 mins to wilt. Turn off the heat and cover.

**4** Heat the remaining oil and fry the eggs. Serve with the rosti, bacon, egg, and veg.

**GIVE THE ROSTI A SWEETER FLAVOUR BY USING A MIXTURE OF SWEET & WHITE POTATO**

## TOMATO & BASIL LASAGNE

TAKES 25 MINS SERVES 4

- \* 1tbsp olive oil
- \* 1 garlic clove, crushed
- \* 400g can chopped tomatoes
- \* Splash of balsamic vinegar
- \* Handful basil, torn, plus extra to garnish
- \* 150g fresh cherry tomatoes
- \* 9 lasagne sheets
- \* 20g chunky breadcrumbs
- \* 250g mozzarella, torn
- \* 20g Parmesan, grated

**1** Warm the olive oil and garlic in a saucepan, pop in the can of chopped tomatoes, balsamic vinegar and basil and simmer for 10 mins. Add the cherry tomatoes and cook for 5 further minutes.

**2** Cook the lasagne sheets in boiling salted water for 8 mins, until tender. Meanwhile, toast the breadcrumbs in a pan until golden. Watching carefully so that they don't burn.

**3** On each plate, layer up three lasagne sheets each with the cherry tomato sauce and torn mozzarella pieces between them, then sprinkle



ONLY  
25  
MINS

over some of the breadcrumbs and finally, add the Parmesan.

**4** Top with a few fresh basil leaves and serve with a crisp side salad.

## FRESH 'N' SAUCY PRAWN NOODLES

TAKES 20 MINS SERVES 4

- \* 250g udon noodles
- \* 2tbsp sesame oil
- \* 2 small carrots, peeled and sliced
- \* 100g mangetout
- \* 1 trimmed leek, cut into 10cm strips
- \* 2tsp lemongrass paste
- \* 1½tsp red chilli, finely diced
- \* 30g ginger
- \* 275g fresh tomatoes, chopped
- \* 2tsp Thai fish sauce
- \* 1tsp sugar
- \* 400g raw peeled prawns
- \* Pickled ginger, coriander leaves, lime wedges and beansprouts to garnish



ONLY  
20  
MINS

for 1 min. Add the tomatoes, fish sauce and sugar and cook for 3 mins, until the tomatoes have broken down. Add the prawns, and cook for 4-5 mins, stirring, then mix in the vegetables and noodles and heat through. Before serving, top with the garnishes.

**1** Cook the noodles according to pack instructions, refresh under cold water and drain well. Heat half the oil in a wok, add the carrots, mangetout and leek and stir-fry for 3-4 mins, until almost tender. Remove from the wok and set aside.

**2** Add the remaining oil to the wok and cook the lemongrass, chilli and ginger

## PESTO CHICKEN & ROASTIES

TAKES 50 MINS SERVES 4

- \* 750g baby new potatoes
- \* 2 courgettes, sliced
- \* 1 red pepper, chopped into chunks
- \* 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- \* 150ml chicken stock
- \* 2tbsp olive oil
- \* 4tsp pesto
- \* 4 chicken legs
- \* 2tsp chicken seasoning
- \* Few sprigs rosemary



ONLY  
50  
MINS

**1** Preheat the oven to 200°C/Gas 6. Take a large roasting tin and then tip in the potatoes, courgettes, pepper and garlic. Season with salt.

**2** Pour in the stock and drizzle over 1tbsp olive oil. Spread the pesto between the chicken flesh and the skin and arrange on top of the vegetables in the roasting tin.

**3** Sprinkle over the chicken seasoning and rosemary sprigs, and drizzle with the remaining oil. Roast for 20 mins, turn over the vegetables and

roast for 20 mins more until the chicken is cooked through and the potatoes are tender and golden.



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# Busy cook's SHOPPING LIST

Pop these ingredients into your basket and try our speedy recipes



Quorn chicken style pieces, £2.99 (500g)



Mixed vegetables, £1 (1kg)



Fresh cut basil, 69p (31g)



Italian mozzarella, 82p (125g)

## CHEESY QUORN & TOMATO BAKE

**TAKES 40 MINS SERVES 4**

Preheat oven to 200°C/Gas 6. Cook **300g pasta** in a pan boiling water for 8 mins until tender. While cooking, heat **1tbsp olive oil** in a frying pan, add **1 crushed garlic clove**, **350g pack of Quorn chicken-style pieces** and **750g frozen chargrilled mixed vegetables** and stir-fry until defrosted. Pour in **500g jar tomato and basil sauce**, bring to the boil and simmer for 5 mins. Drain the pasta, add to the sauce with a **handful basil leaves** and mix well. Pour into a large baking dish. Scatter **125g shredded mozzarella** over the top and bake for 20 mins until golden and bubbling. Season and serve with basil leaves.

QUICK & TASTY



## 5 uses for... WHOLE-GRAIN MUSTARD

**1** Mix together 1 part wholegrain mustard, 1 part honey and 1 part white wine vinegar with 3 parts olive oil for a delicious salad dressing.

**2** Make a crumb topping for fish by mixing together 1½tbsp wholegrain mustard, 3tbsp breadcrumbs and 1tbsp chopped dill. Spread over the top of salmon or cod and bake in the oven at 200°C/Gas 6 for 10 mins.

**3** Swirl a spoonful of wholegrain mustard through mashed potato for extra flavour and serve with some grilled sausages.

**4** Add a spoonful of wholegrain mustard to beef stroganoff to give the sauce some flavour.

**5** Mix 1tbsp wholegrain mustard with 1tbsp mayonnaise and spread in a halved toasted ciabatta roll. Top with slices of freshly grilled steak for a yum sandwich.

## APPLE CHARLOTTES

**TAKES 1 HR SERVES 6**

\* 115g butter \* 1kg Golden Delicious apples, peeled and chopped \* Juice of 1 lemon \* 1 vanilla pod, halved and seeds scraped out \* 175g caster sugar \* 3tbsp Calvados \* 200g brioche, thinly sliced \* 300ml double cream \* ½tsp ground cinnamon \* 1tsp vanilla extract

**1** Melt 100g butter in a pan, add the apples, lemon juice, vanilla and sugar. Cook for 15 mins to

break down the apples. Stir in the calvados, cook for 10 mins. Discard the vanilla pod and leave to cool.

**2** Preheat the oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Grease six individual pudding basins with butter and line with the brioche, overlapping them slightly, saving some for the top.

**3** Spoon in the apple and top with brioche. Bake for 15 mins until golden. Lightly whip the cream with cinnamon and vanilla. Turn out the Charlottes and serve with the cream.



Golden Delicious apples, £1.67

Fiddes Payne Pure vanilla pods, £2.98 for pack of two

Butter Brioche rolls, £1.39 for pack of eight



# Bake a party SPARKLER

Get creative in the kitchen and wow guests with this stunning scene stealer

## CHOCCY MARSHMALLOW CAKE

TAKES 45 MINS SERVES 12

- \* 125g butter \* 175g caster sugar, plus 3tbsp \* 175g light muscovado sugar \* 2 eggs \* 225g self-raising flour \* 1/4tsp bicarbonate of soda \* 50g cocoa powder \* 284ml carton buttermilk \* 300ml double cream \* 200g plain chocolate, cubed \* 1tbsp hundreds and thousands \* 12tsp marshmallow fluff \* 6 marshmallows

- 1 Preheat oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Grease and line 2 x 20cm round cake tins. Put the butter and sugars into a bowl and cream together until pale and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time.
- 2 Add the flour, bicarbonate of soda and cocoa, then pour in the buttermilk. Stir until smooth. Divide the mixture between the tins. Bake for 25 mins, until risen. Insert a skewer into the centre, if it comes out clean, the cakes are ready. Cool in the tins for 5 mins, turn out and cool on a wire rack.
- 3 Put the cream in a pan with 3tbsp caster sugar and warm through. Add the chocolate, turn off the heat, stir until smooth. Cool for 10 mins.
- 4 Put a cake on a stand, spread over half the frosting. Sprinkle over the hundreds and thousands. Arrange 12tsp marshmallow fluff around the top edge. Snip the marshmallows in half at an angle and place on top. Serve with a mini table sparkler in the cake.



BAKE A SPECIAL TREAT

**Or try these...**



**LAKELAND**  
Chocolate flavoured frosting, £2.35 (350g)



**TESCO**  
Pink and white marshmallows, 73p (100g)



**SAINSBURY'S**  
Party sprinkles, £2.50 (83g)

What you  
smell.

What your  
guests smell.



Have you gone noseblind?

Febreze truly eliminates odours and leaves a light Christmas scent.

Breathe Happy



# November's HOME SAVER

Our top fixes for household dilemmas and money-saving tips

## Cosy-up and cold-proof your home

As the temperature drops, make your home warm, welcoming and snuggly

**PAINT WALLS A DEEP COLOUR** Dark walls will make a room feel immediately cosy, and graphite grey or rich deep blue are right on trend at the moment. Do the whole room for dramatic impact, or just a feature wall, but add pale accessories and natural textures on top to create a stunning contrast.

**ADD LAYERS TO YOUR BED** Snuggling into a bed that's deep with blankets, soft cushions and a thick quilt is a wonderful thing on a chilly night – as you warm up, simply kick off a layer. Getting cosy under a warm blanket is lovelier if you've made it yourself. Try an easy patchwork version by stitching together 20cm squares of pretty fabric and back with fleece.

**DETAILS IN EVERY ROOM** There are lots of little things you can do around the home to make it feel cosy. Have table lamps on timers for gentle pools of warm light, add soft furnishings in natural fabrics like wool, chunky knits or fur, and introduce attractive reed diffusers or scented candles in spicy or woodland scents.

**NO MORE DRAUGHTS** Stop air whipping under a door by making an excluder. For a no-sew version, stuff one leg of a pair of knitted tights and knot the end. Or make a tube from a fabric remnant, stuff and sew.



### LOGE STYLE

Create a cosy ski chalet boudoir with this wintry range from Tesco

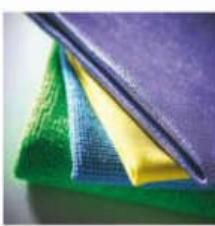
## HANDY HELPERS

Leather will become softer, and more beautiful with a bit of TLC from one of these top products\*\*



### WIPE CLEAN

Aloe vera and beeswax wipes clean, remove dust, fingerprints and grease. Lord Sheraton leather wipes, £2.95 for pack of 24, Tesco



### BUST DUST

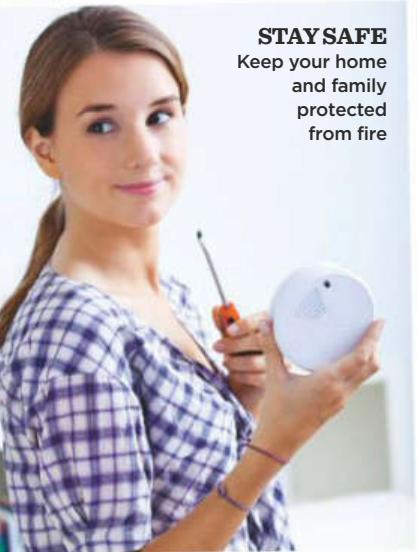
Vacuum crevices in leather seats or sofas, then wipe with a soft cloth. Microfiber cloths, from £2.49, Lakeland



### SOFTEN UP

To disguise marks, apply reviving cream with a soft cloth, and buff. Stone's Beeswax Leather cream & polish, £6.99, Lakeland

**STAY SAFE**  
Keep your home  
and family  
protected  
from fire



## FIRE SAFETY IN YOUR HOME

Install a good-quality smoke alarm and ensure you and your family are protected against fire\*

### SMOKE ALARMS

The easiest way to keep your home safe from fire is to install approved alarms. You can pick one up cheaply from DIY stores or supermarkets. You must install one on every level of your home and in the middle of the ceiling is best.

### PEACE OF MIND

Consider installing a 10-year battery alarm – they're slightly

more expensive but can save you the expense of changing batteries, or fit one that is mains-powered. It's also advisable to link all the alarms in your home, so when one goes off, they all do.

### REGULAR CHECKS

Never disconnect or take the batteries out of an alarm and make testing them part of your household routine.

**TOP TIP! USE BANANA SKIN TO DUST PLANTS – DUST CLINGS TO THE SKIN AND THE JUICE NOURISHES THE LEAVES**

### 3 apps for... FOODIES BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Plan your festive fare with these apps



**GREAT BRITISH CHEFS FEASTIVE**  
Free

Be inspired to cook festive meals to remember with this app, where 26 of the UK's best chefs give their seasonal take on classic dishes, creating over 100 different recipes.



**CHRISTMAS COOKIE RECIPES**  
Free

Be ready for visitors with tea and a freshly baked biscuit with the help of the 100+ recipes here, to ensure everyone has a perfect sweet treat to fill them with Christmas spirit.



**CHRISTMAS RECIPES**  
Free

Warm up on a cold day by following a recipe for a delicious spiced tea, infused wine or coffee-based drink. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic recipes are included, to suit all tastes.

**SPACED OUT**  
Use a laser-technology measuring tool like the Bosch PLR 15 for perfect results



## You ask us...

**Q I like the current trend for photo walls but how can I ensure they're evenly spaced?**

Using a digital measuring tool like the Bosch PLR 15, £49.99, ensures a precise measurement first time around, thanks to laser technology, so getting frames equally spaced is easy. Lay the pictures you would like to hang on the floor, so you can have an idea how they will look when you

fix them on the wall. You need to know, as well, the sizes of the frames you want to hang – this will define the distance between them. After hanging the first frame, with the PLR 15, measure the precise distance required for the next hole. Repeat this process for each frame to ensure all holes are aligned.

## All in the details... REPAIRING WALL CRACKS

Always make repairs before redecorating, for a great finish



**1** Slightly moisten the crack in the wall with a damp sponge, then squeeze a small amount of Tough Little Polyfilla directly into the cavity.



**2** Smooth over with the end of the tube and allow the filler to dry (approx. 5 mins).



**3** Paint over the crack for a seamless repair.  
Project and images courtesy of Polycell. Polycell Tough Little Polyfilla is available in a blister pack of 2x 20ml tubes from Tesco, Asda and all good independent stores, RRP £3.79.



Tweet the team at **#askSAH** with your photos, decorating dilemmas and tips.



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COOKS  
professional

WORTH  
£130  
POSTAGE £3.95



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silver

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Duck-egg blue



Cream



Burgundy



Go for pastel green  
for a chic look

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**ONLINE** Visit [clifford-james.co.uk/53574](http://clifford-james.co.uk/53574)

**TERMS & CONDITIONS** \*Calls cost 13p per minute plus your phone company's access charge. P&P is £3.95 per order. 'Was' pricing refers to original selling prices offered on promoter's website [cjooffers.co.uk](http://cjooffers.co.uk), and in their retail store between 22 June 2015 and 22 September 2015. Offer subject to availability and open to UK mainland only. Please allow seven working days for delivery. Return faulty/unused goods in sealed original packaging for a refund or replacement within 30 days. Postage is not refunded on unsuitable items or cancelled orders. Cards will be charged by, and your contract for supply of goods, is with BVG Airflo, a company wholly independent of Style at Home, published by Time Inc. (UK) Ltd.

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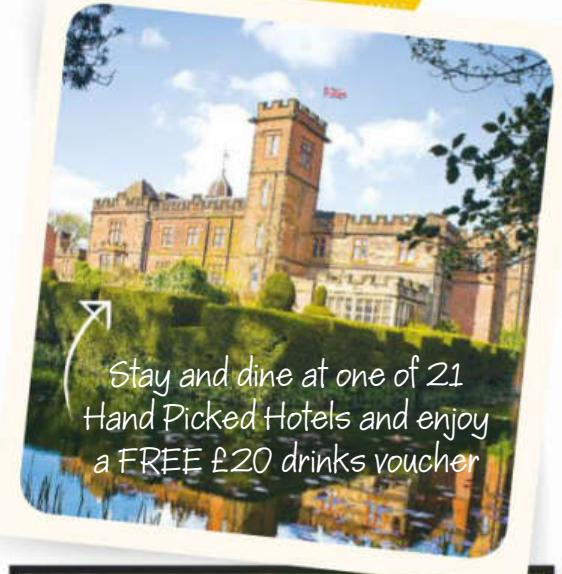
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\*The Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon, and therefore cannot be guaranteed to occur during the flight, although they have been visible on many previous outings. Our guest astronomer advises at least an 80% chance of a sighting. Offer operated and subject to the booking conditions of Omega Holidays, ATOL 6081 a company wholly independent of Style at Home, published by Time Inc. (UK) Ltd.

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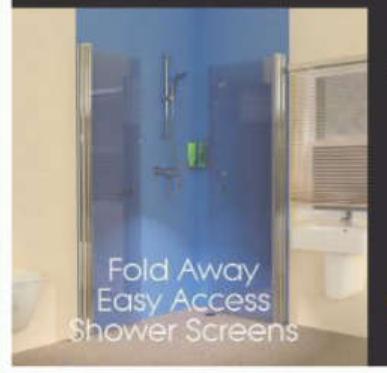
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**Scion** scion.co.uk

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**Sophie Allport** 0845 017 7866;

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**Supreme Plumb** 01254 377367;

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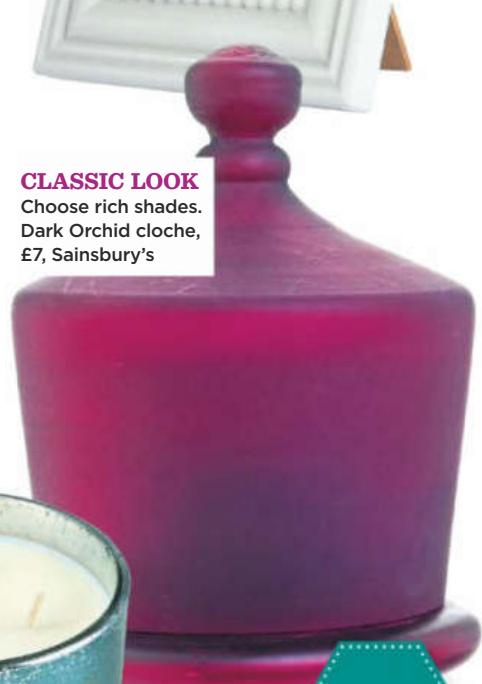
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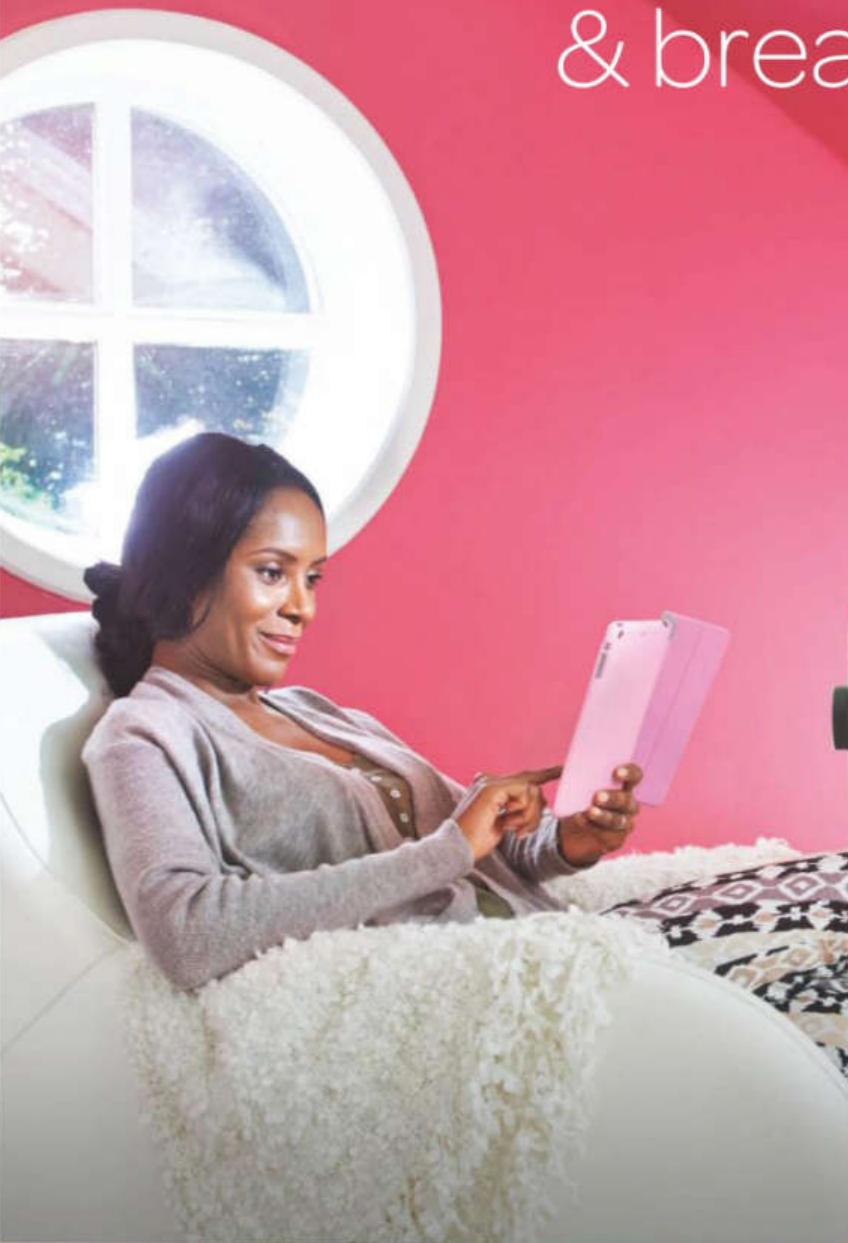
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